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A-League Round 10 Friday 13th Dec - Sunday 15th Dec 2013



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SOCZEROOS DRAWN IN GROUP OF DEATH

BLAME IT ON RIO!



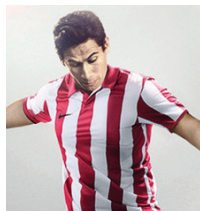
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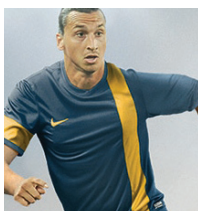
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Ganso



Ibrahimovic



Neymar



Thiago Silva

AUSTRALIA'S 2013 NUMBER ONE NIKE TEAM WEAR SUPPLIER

NPL TO GO AHEAD IN VICTORIA IN 2014

By Paul Mavroudis



After months of squabbling, court cases and the apparent abandonment of applying the National Premier League format in Victoria in 2014, NPL Victoria will go ahead next year following the intervention of Football Federation Australia.

The deal which will see Victoria join the rest of the state federations in implementing the NPL, was brokered by the FFA. According to some sources, the FFA had lost patience with Football Federation Victoria's inability to reach a compromise with the 60-odd co-signatory clubs who had been opposed to the FFV's NPL model.

The initial rumours to emerge from the compromise claimed that in 2014, the Victorian Premier League and State League 1 divisions would simply be re-branded into NPL 1 and 2, with the clubs in those divisions keeping their place. This rumour also suggested that two regional clubs or consortia could also have been added to each of the top two divisions.

However, in their revised criteria, the FFV are allowing any club that played in 2013 to apply for the NPL in 2014, as well as new and existing regional entities. New metropolitan consortia will be allowed to apply to participate from 2015 onwards. The number of NPL divisions, to be capped at a maximum of two,

will be dependent on how many teams apply and are accepted. A three year moratorium period for relegation from the NPL will also exist, though clubs who win the lower state league divisions may apply for admittance into NPL Victoria should they meet the criteria. Whether Victoria's two A-League representatives, the Victory and the Heart, will also participate is remains unknown at this stage.

The fate of the lower divisions, the clubs that are in those divisions, as well as those teams which fail to be accepted into NPL Victoria remain unknown. The Women's NPL, which the FFV had intended to run in 2014, will be delayed until 2015. Unlike other state federations, the FFV had intended to make all NPL clubs run both men's and women's NPL programmes.

The compromise has seen the FFV give up its demand for a zone based system, one of the more contentious elements of its original plan. It has also seen the right of NPL clubs to retain their small sided games teams. In a compromise to the FFV, the co-signatory clubs have agreed to the restriction of one team per NPL age group.

The fees allowed to be charged to junior NPL players have been raised to over \$2,000, up from the \$1,700 most recently planned by the FFV, and a long way from the circa \$1,000 mark as advocated by the former FFV CEO Mark Rendell in 2012. The revised fee structure is closer to that in the New South Wales NPL, and was a key demand of the co-signatory clubs.

There will also be a temporary relaxing of the coaching accreditation required, but the licensing arrangement rather than an affiliation will still be a key component of NPL Victoria. This licensing agreement, along with the implementation of

the player points system, will be negotiated at a later point. The deal also means that the co-signatory clubs will not pursue their action in the Supreme Court, which was to argue that the FFV's constitution was oppressive to its constituents, and which may have resulted in the alteration of the FFV's constitution.

While the leaders of the co-signatory group have welcome deal, as well as the end of hostilities, the outcome has been met with mixed reaction by other parties. Those disappointed with the outcome encompass a diverse group, in large caused by the diverse interests and agendas of those within the co-signatory group.

They include those who are against the FFA's NCR programme as a whole; those in the co-signatory group who wanted to hold out even longer to get more concessions; those in the co-signatory group who wanted to continue with the court proceedings; and elements of the large swathe of clubs who will end up in largely the same position whichever model got up, by having their talented junior players funnelled upwards, with the fear that the top echelons of Victorian soccer will become a closed shop.

A compromise solution between Football Federation Victoria and the 60-odd co-signatory clubs had reportedly been achieved two weeks ago, only for the FFV to apparently later renege on the deal.

The FFV – unable to proceed with the NPL in any way, after the co-signatory clubs had won a court injunction preventing them doing so – followed up that meeting by putting out a press release stating that they would proceed with conducting the league system as per the current format.

ACL Draw Announced



AFC Champions League holders Guangzhou Evergrande have been paired with old foes Jeonbuk Motors in the group stage of the 2014 competition.

The Chinese side, who completed a remarkable double this year by lifting both their domestic title and the continental crown, were pitted against their Korean rivals for the second straight campaign at the draw on Tuesday.

Marcello Lippi's men lifted the Champions League trophy last month after a two-legged victory over Seoul, becoming the first Chinese outfit in 23 years to win Asia's premier club competition.

A 1-1 draw at the Tianhe Stadium in the second leg was enough to edge Evergrande to victory on away goals, after a 2-2 scoreline in the first encounter.

They were held on both occasions

by Jeonbuk - the 2006 winners - last season, with a 1-1 draw in Korea followed by a 0-0 stalemate in the return.

The pair will have to wait to find out their remaining Group G opponents, however, with the Japanese cup winners set to be decided in January and a play-off deciding the final team.

In the East section, Australians Western Sydney Wanderers face China's Guizhou Renhe and K League runners-up Ulsan, as well as a J-League side yet to be confirmed.

Following its third place finish in last year's Hyundai A-League, Melbourne Victory has earned the right to play in the qualification stage in early 2014 in order to progress to the competition's group stages.

The location, date and opponents for the qualifying games will be confirmed following the AFC Champions League draw on December 10 in Kuala Lumpur.

If it progressed, Melbourne Victory would take a spot in East Group G.



China rejoices after a Marcello Lippi lead Guangzhou Evergrand to Asian Champions League glory.

AFC Champions League

WEST

GROUP A
Esteghlal (IRN)
Al Rayyan (QAT)
Al Jazira (UAE)
Al Shabab (KSA)

GROUP B
Al Fateh (KSA)
Foolad Khouzestan (IRN)
Winner of Playoff 3.1 (West)
Bunyodkor (UZB)

GROUP C
Al Ain (UAE)
Al Ittihad (KSA)
Tractorsazi Tabriz (IRN)
Winner of Playoff 3.2 (West)

GROUP D
Al Sadd (QAT)
Al Ahli (UAE)
Al Hilal (KSA)
Sepahan (IRN)

EAST

GROUP E
Pohang Steelers (KOR)
Buriram United (THA)
Shandong Luneng Taishan (CHN)
League 3rd place (JPN)

GROUP F
Sanfrecce Hiroshima (JPN)
Central Coast Mariners (AUS)
FC Seoul (KOR)
Winner of Playoff 3.1 (East)

GROUP G
Guangzhou Evergrande (CHN)
Knockout Champion (JPN)
Jeonbuk Hyundai Motors (KOR)
Winner of Playoff 3.2 (East)

GROUP H
Western Sydney Wanderers (AUS)
Guizhou Renhe (CHN)
League Runner-up (JPN)
Ulsan Hyundai (KOR)

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'Roos to meet the best at Brasil 2014

By Pablo Bateson

Attention and then responses from the Australian sporting public, football community and media have been unprecedented for a World Cup finals draw.

Live coverage early last Saturday morning (AEDT) of the event featured an interesting mix of artistic, musical and football talent. Broadcasting sound glitches perhaps took the edge of the associated entertainment spectacle, and it's hoped that our Brazilian hosts will by next June lift the bar in terms of technical aspects of event production. In the latter part of proceedings, SBS Television's Les Murray finally strayed from the Portuguese to English translation script to add a little of his own wry humour..... including that "haircut"!

However, it was fitting that a rich selection of football superstars from the past, and supported by the delectable Brazilian model Fernanda Lima, were the ones to draw the teams for all eight groups.

We held our collective breaths as Australia first drew reigning world cup champions Spain, then powerhouse Chile and 2010 runners-up Holland. Wow, could this have been better, worse and more challenging? Well in the post draw commentary, quite predictably it didn't prevent the media clichés from coming through thick and fast such as "group of death", "horror draw" and "worst draw possible" etc.

Being a 'glass half full' football lover, my take is that it's a dream draw. When you are at the ultimate of all World Cups, you want to play against the very best and as travelling supporters experience the highest quality football possible. FFA National Technical Director, Han Berger, feels it is "Indeed (a) great draw. Nothing to lose and every possibility to cause an upset". We can use our participation as preparation for the 2015 Asian Cup on home soil, which gives a fantastic opportunity to win a major tournament for the first time. If we perform well then our three highly ranked opponents will have much to be worry about. A shock result or two are a distinct possibility to upset predictions from so-called experts. Anything more will be bonus for the Socceroos and the many thousands of fans that converge on Brasil next June.

The choice of Vitoria on the coast some 420 kilometres north-east of Rio de Janeiro seems to provide an ideal base camp for the squad and its staff. Described by one FFA official as like a "mini Rio", this coastal island city has a tropical climate with average temperatures in June around 27 degrees maximum and 19 minimum, moderate humidity levels and low rainfall. To help keep Aussie fans even more 'at home' there are some notable surf-



I'll see you Jimmy! Socceroo coach Ange Postecoglou meets the enemy in World Cup champion coach of Spain, Vicente del Bosque.



Moment of truth: Australia's name is drawn from the pot and will now face the might of Spain, Netherlands and Chile in the quest for World Cup glory.

ing breaks to the north around Praia Grande.

So let's look the Socceroos match schedule and venue cities in a little more detail.

Chile vs Australia

Arena Pantanal, Cuiaba
13 June KO 6pm local time
(8am 14 June AET)

Cuiaba is a major gateway to the Pantanal, one the world's biggest wetland ecosystems with incredible biodiversity including home to the legendary jaguar. It is close to the geographic centre of the South American continent and on a time zone minus one hour from Rio and other major cities to the east. With a population of just under one million people, the city has numerous fine museums and an economy with a significant base around agriculture, food processing, and rapidly growing tourism activities.

For June, average conditions include: maximum temperatures of 30 degrees and minimum 17 degrees; 16 millimetres of rain over 3 days; and typically moderate humidity.

Australia vs Holland

Estadio Beira-Rio, Porto Alegre
18 June KO 1pm local time
(2am 19 June AET)

The southern-most coastal city of all the World Cup venues, Porto Alegre has a very pronounced German cultural influence and feel. The greater metropolitan area with a population of over four million is built on a delta at the junction of five rivers. Only some 370 kilometres or so from the border of Uruguay, the surrounding region produces most of Brasil's wine as well as wide array of fine, fresh produce.

For June, average conditions include: maximum temperatures of 19 degrees and minimum of 10 degrees; 136 millimetres of rain over 17 days; and typically moderate humidity.

Australia vs Spain

Arena da Baixada, Curitiba
23 June KO 1pm local time
(2am 24 June AET)

Brasil's most liveable and award winning 'sustainable city', Curitiba features magnificent green public spaces and one of the world's most efficient rapid transit bus systems.

The metropolitan area of well over three million people sits on a plateau just under 1,000 metres above sea level and is the fourth largest economy in the nation.

For June, average conditions include maximum temperatures of 19 degrees and minimum of 8 degrees; 98 millimetres of rain over 17 days; and typically moderate humidity. So in summary, the logistical challenges for the Socceroos have been softened somewhat compared with the situation facing many other teams. Travelling supporters based in Rio will need to make three long return trips, at least two only practical by air.

The Groups

Looking at the other seven groups, two in particular stand out as perhaps most challenging for some of the teams with the greatest aspirations to progress deep into the knock out stages.

In Group D, England will have a huge battle on their hands to grab a top two finishing spot. It is ironic to be drawn to play an opening game in Manaus against Italy, after the public comments of manager Roy Hodgson and a blunt retort from the local Mayor about their pos-

sible presence, Surely now, both parties will restore diplomacy and make the best of the opportunity especially with a huge England fans contingent set to visit the city on the banks of the mighty Amazon River. In terms of the football, Italy and Uruguay must be strongly favoured to progress, with only Costa Rica likely to struggle to make any significant impact.

Group G presents Germany with some major early challenges, and not even a World Cup pedigree that is second to none amongst European nations will intimidate its accomplished opponents in Portugal, Ghana and USA. While the Germans must be favoured to advance, who joins them is completely up for grabs. A fascinating set of possible scenarios that almost certainly will be seen the final match day decide all of the finishing spots for qualification. Most games will be played in tropical and equatorial northern venues, so fitness over a tough 12 day period will be a huge factor.

Of the other groups, Brasil look likely to comfortably top their Group A ahead of perhaps Mexico, and fiercest rivals Argentina likewise in Group F in front of Nigeria.

Belgium seem to have drawn an easier pathway in Group H to progress along with either Russia or Korea, while France also look to be well favoured in Group E ahead of Switzerland.

For Group C, South America's most improved team Colombia should revel in the conditions to finish on top, with Japan the most likely runners up especially with this year's Confederations Cup under their belt and a recent return to top form.

It is still six months out from the tournament start, and so much can happen in the meantime in terms of crucial injuries to key players and also building form in the lead up preparation games. However, here come the predictions for tournament success:

1. Brasil 2. Argentina 3. Spain (with the dark horse to be Colombia)

In the entire history of the World Cup since 1930, no team from outside South America has won the title in any tournament hosted in the Americas. Conditions including culture, environment, crowds and climate will have most European teams well outside their comfort zone. Perhaps Spain as holders is in the best shape to create history by overcoming these barriers. The big names above all have astute coaches with big tournament successes in their respective CVs and great depth in those squads including super-star depth right across the park.

From early next year onwards, GW will be presenting comprehensive analysis on all 32 nations, with two teams per edition. In the meantime, 'feliz Navidad' to all readers.

Comments and feedback welcome via
Twitter @PabloFootball



FIFA WORLD CUP
Brasil

FIFA World Cup Brazil 2014 Group Draw

Group A
Brazil
Cameroon
Mexico
Croatia

Group E
Switz
Ecuador
Honduras
France

Group B
Spain
Chile
Australia
Holland

Group F
Argentina
Nigeria
Iran
Bosnia

Group C
Colombia
Coast D'or
Japan
Greece

Group G
Germany
Ghana
USA
Portugal

Group D
Uruguay
Italy
Costa Rica
England

Group H
Belgium
Algeria
Korea Rep
Russia

The Odds

2014 World Cup winner

\$4.33 Brazil
\$6.00 Argentina, Germany
\$7.00 Spain
\$15 Belgium
\$19 Holland
\$21 Italy
\$23 England
\$26 France, Uruguay, Colombia, Portugal

\$251 Australia, South Korea, Cameroon
\$501 Algeria, Costa Rica, Iran, Honduras

Socceroos v Chile

\$1.67 Chile
\$3.50 Draw
\$5.00 Socceroos

Socceroos v Netherlands

\$1.36 Netherlands
\$4.50 Draw
\$7.00 Socceroos

Socceroos v Spain

\$1.30 Spain
\$5.00 Draw
\$9.00 Socceroos

Group B winner

\$1.80 Spain
\$2.88 Holland
\$6.00 Chile
\$19 Australia

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SCOREBOARD

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Brisbane Roar	9	7	0	2	17	6	11	21
2 Western Sydney Wanderers	9	4	4	1	10	7	3	16
3 Newcastle Jets	9	4	3	2	11	10	1	15
4 Sydney FC	9	5	0	4	11	11	0	15
5 Central Coast Mariners	8	3	4	1	9	7	2	13
6 Melbourne Victory	9	3	3	3	12	10	2	12
7 Perth Glory	9	3	3	3	10	10	0	12
8 Adelaide United	9	1	3	5	12	17	-5	6
9 Wellington Phoenix	8	0	4	4	8	13	-5	4
10 Melbourne Heart	9	0	4	5	7	16	-9	4

THIS WEEK	Round 10	Fixture	Venue	Local	AEDT
	Fri Dec 13	Melbourne Victory v Perth Glory	AAMI Park	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
	Sat Dec 14	Wellington Phoenix v Brisbane Roar	Westpac Stadium	5:30 PM	3:30 PM
	Sat Dec 14	Adelaide United v Central Coast Mariners	Hindmarsh Stadium	5:00 PM	5:30 PM
	Sat Dec 14	Newcastle Jets v West Sydney Wanderers	Hunter Stadium	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
	Sun Dec 15	Sydney FC v Melbourne Heart	Allianz Stadium	5:00 PM	5:00 PM

NEXT WEEK	Round 11	Fixture	Venue	Local	AEDT
	Fri Dec 20	Brisbane Roar v Newcastle Jets	TBC	7:00 PM	8:00 PM
	Sat Dec 21	Melbourne Heart v Melbourne Victory	AAMI Park	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
	Sun Dec 22	Wellington Phoenix v Sydney FC	Westpac Stadium	7:00 PM	5:00 PM
	Sun Dec 22	Perth Glory v Adelaide United	nib Stadium	4:00 PM	7:00 PM
	Mon Dec 23	West Sydney Wanderers v CC Mariners	Parramatta Stadium	7:00 PM	7:00 PM

ROUND NINE

Adelaide United 1
(Osama Malik 7')
Brisbane Roar 2 (Besart Berisha 21'(p), 72')
Coopers Stadium, Adelaide

Perth Glory 4 (Sciola 15', 90', Thwaite 60', Zahra 82')
Wellington Phoenix 2
(Huysegems 36', Ifill 49')
Attendance: 8232 @ nib Stadium

Western Sydney Wanderers 1
(Aaron Mooy 44')
Melbourne Heart FC 1
(David Williams 38')
Attendance: 14,549 @ Pirtek Stadium, Parramatta

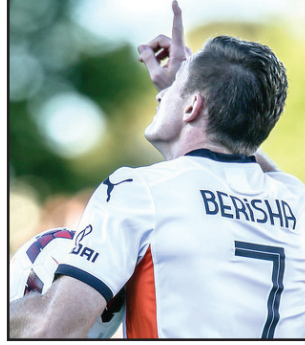
Central Coast Mariners 1
(McBreen 26')
Sydney FC 0
Attendance: 10,251 @ Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford

Melbourne Victory 1 (troisi)
Newcastle Jets 2 (Burns 2)
Crowd: 18,000 @ AAMI Park

AGAINST ALL ODDS	
A-League Title 2013/14	
Brisbane Roar	3.20
Wanderers	4.50
Central Coast Mariners	6.50
Sydney FC	8.50
Melbourne Victory	6.50
Newcastle Jets	8.50
Perth Glory	11.0
Adelaide United	26.0
Wellington Phoenix	41.0
Melbourne Heart	51.0

TOP GOAL SCORERS

- 06 Adam Taggart (Jets)
James Troisi (Victory)
Besart Berisha (Roar)
- 04 Osama Malik (Adelaide)
Henrique (Roar)
David Williams (Heart)
- 03 Alessandro Del Piero (SFC)
Archie Thompson (Victory)
Matthew Smith (Roar)
Sidnei (Perth Glory)
Marcos Flores (Mariners)
Jeronimo Neumann (Adelaide Utd)
Ryo Nagai (Glory)
Joel Chianese (Sydney FC)
- 02 Tomi Juric (Wanderers)
Mitchell Duke (Mariners)
Fabio Farriera (Adelaide)



The only way is up for Besart Berisha as he moves into equal pole position.

A-LEAGUE TEAM OF THE WEEK Round 9

Compiled by Nick Aimies



Mark Birighitti (Newcastle Jets)
Much was made about the Victory's lack of a cutting edge on Sunday against the Jets, but the opposition keeper also had a role in their failure to win the game. Birighitti has been one of Gary van Egmond's best all season with a number of key saves and backed up again in Melbourne with another reliable performance between the sticks.

Storm Roux (Central Coast Mariners)
An international break has contrived to stall the young right-back's impressive start with the Mariners, but Storm Roux was starting to show signs of a return to form at Bluetongue against Sydney FC. He helped starve the visiting side of any clear chances in defence before helping supplement

the attack with some trademark overlapping runs.

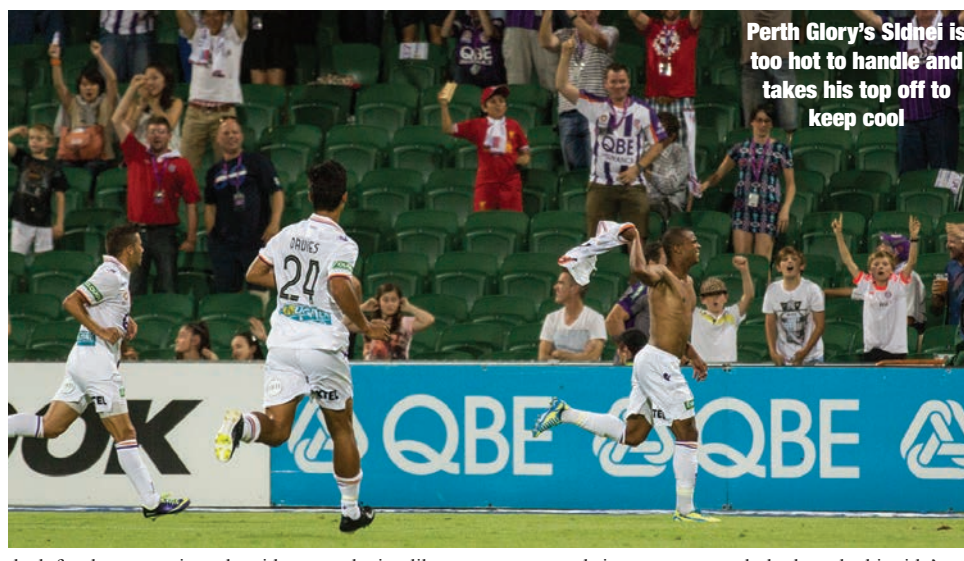
Kew Jaliens (Newcastle Jets)
Like the other international defender on the field on Sunday, Pablo Contreras, the Polish defender has had a chequered campaign tarnished but some rash challenges and fiery confrontations. However the 35-year-old put in one of his best performances in of the season on Sunday, constantly pressuring the Victory's inexperienced attack into missing their chances.

Michael Thwaite (Perth Glory)
Much is made of the east coast clubs and their players claims for national selection, but over in the west Michael Thwaite is slowly building quite the appeal. A natural leader on the field, the centre-

back has now begun pairing his superb reading of the game with goals from set pieces, bagging his second goal in Glory colours with a fine header.

Joshua Rose (Central Coast Mariners)
Menacing and tireless aren't typically adjectives used together, but Josh Rose is fully deserving of both. Time and time again he was found charging up the left flank to support his teammates, eventually being rewarded for his efforts with a neat assist to Daniel McBreen for the winning goal. After taking a back seat last season behind Pedj Bojic, this year Josh Rose has reclaimed the mantle as his side's game-changing defender.

Nathan Burns (Newcastle Jets)
The on-loan attacker broke his



Perth Glory's Sidnei is too hot to handle and takes his top off to keep cool

duck for the season in style with a superb one-touch finish past Nathan Coe before replicating the feat midway through the second half from a more difficult angle to seal the points. With his loan set to run out in mid-January, Gary van Egmond must pursue all possible ways in which Burns can help the high-flying Jets continue their charge up the ladder.

Aaron Mooy (Western Syd Wanderers)
Operating as a holding midfielder doesn't give you many goal-scoring opportunities, so you have to take them as they come. Mooy took his chance with aplomb, briefly controlling the received pass before driving his shot past Andrew Redmayne with his left foot. With lead striker Tom Juric out, Mooy may have to produce this kind of quality more often to sustain the Wanderers' title defence.

Michael McGlinchey (Central Coast Mariners)
The diminutive Kiwi has been

playing like a man possessed since the All Whites' world cup qualifiers against Mexico, thus far overshadowing Marcos Flores as his side's eminent creator in midfield. It was his deft pass through two defenders that released Josh Rose in the build-up to the game's only goal, but had his strikers taken their chances better the former Celtic man might have notched up an assist or two of his own.

Sidnei Sciola (Perth Glory)
With star striker Shane Smeltz struggling for form and fitness the burden of goals has fallen upon the flamboyant Brazilian, but he has certainly answered the call. His first was a stunning strike from 25 yards and though his second in second half injury time was a little fortuitous, his earlier assist was a delivery of the highest quality. Definitely an early contender for signing of the season.

David Williams (Melbourne Heart)
Accompanied by a set of misfiring forwards, David Williams

constantly looks to be his side's only credible attacking threat. Leading from the front with his dynamic runs and blistering turn of pace, the former Olyroo asked several questions of the Wanderers defence before giving his side the lead with a sublime cross that beat everyone to find the back of the net. With a little more help from his teammates the Heart would have secured their maiden victory of the season, but Aloisi's men must wait yet another week.

Besart Berisha (Brisbane Roar)
Surely someone must be passing footage on to his national coach, because at the moment the Albanian is a world-beater by anyone's standards. Another two goals, the first created by a trademark dribble through the defence and the second a penalty, makes it four in three games since returning from injury and puts the Roar five points clear at the top of the table.

Adelaide United

1

Brisbane Roar

2

Match Details

Adelaide United 1 (Osama Malik 7')
Brisbane Roar 2 (Besart Berisha 21'(P), 72')
Friday, 6 December 2013
Crowd: 8,861 @ Coopers Stdm
Referee: Peter O'leary

Adelaide United: 1. Eugene Galekovic (Gk), 4. Jonathan McKain, 5. Osama Malik, 8. Isaias, 9. Sergio Cirio, 10. Marcelo Carrusca, 11. Bruce Djite (7. Jeronimo Neumann 63'), 13. Steven Lustica, 18. Michael Zullo, 21. Tarek Elrich, 22. Fabio Ferreira (17. Awer Mabil 69')

Substitutes Not Used: 12. Ant-only Golec, 19. Jake Barker-Daish, 30. John Hall (Gk)
Yellow Cards: Bruce Djite 60', Sergio Ciro 90+3'
Red Cards: Nil

Brisbane Roar: 2. Matthew Smith (C), 5. Ivan Franjic, 7. Besart Berisha (29. Kwame Yeboah 77'), 10. Henrique (11. Liam Miller 57'), 15. James Donachie, 17. Matt McKay, 18. Luke Brattan, 19. Jack Hingert, 20. Matthew Acton (Gk), 22. Thomas Broich, 26. Corey Brown

Substitutes Not Used: 14. Diogo Ferreira, 23. Dimitri Petratos, 33. Fraser Chalmers
Yellow Cards: Jack Hingert 90+2'
Red Cards: Nil

Roar Leave Brave Adelaide Red Faced

By Matt Mays

Brisbane Roar extended their lead at the top of the A-League ladder whilst enthralling another defeat to struggling Adelaide United in an entertaining battle at Cooper's Stadium on Friday night.

Osama Malik headed the home side in front as they looked the brighter early on, only to be denied by a double from Berisha from the spot, then again late on.

The Reds have not won since the opening day of the season while it leaves Roar opening up daylight at the top and maintains their red hot form heading into the christmas period.

Adelaide United began the first half very encouraging indeed. Their so called tika-taka approach was fast paced and had more bite than previously shown at Melbourne Heart, and early on they were rewarded for their efforts.

Just seven minutes in Osama Malik took advantage of some confused Roar defenders from a Marcelo Currusca corner and headed home his second of the campaign, leaving under pressure boss Gombau gleaming on the sidelines.

But not for the first time this week, Adelaide payed the price from a silly mistake at the back. After some smart play on the left, Corey Brown beat Elrich for pace cutting into the box, only to be hauled down by the Lebanese Aussie. Berisha calmly slotted home the penalty sending Galekovic the wrong way.

The goal normally would have shot Adelaide's confidence. but not this time. Their first half dominance continued with chances falling for Cirio after some lovely stuff from Steven Lustica, then minutes later Cirio squeezed a shot inches past Acton's post.

With half time looming, Portuguese talisman Ferreira was denied by Acton with a wonderful save, tipping the wingers shot aside when it looked deemed to give the Reds a well deserved lead.

Half time arrived but it came at a cost, break the home team's continu-

ity and flow. They could not get it going again after the break and Brisbane took full advantage.

The Roar forced high pressure on Adelaide's back line, and tika-take turned into rugby union.

Brisbane got their just deserts with just eighteen minutes from time but lady luck played its part.

A League badboy Berisha broke his way through the defence leaving himself one-on-one with the keeper. Malik and McKain bundled over the striker but it wasn't enough to stop him from toe poking it under the keeper while on the floor.

Adelaide could not respond but did give a couple of scares late on with Mabil setting up Cirio and having a penalty appeal from a Malik stumble in the box waved away.

Brisbane hung on to the final whistle which brought jeers from the crowd at Cooper's.

Gombau, who is heavily (some-what harshly) under pressure from local media in Adelaide admits the team needs results but maintains his happiness with the way the team is playing.

"Today we played a team who play the best football in the league, in my opinion, and we had more chances than them, more possession, but I am sad and unhappy for the result. Not for me, nor the players, but for the fans, and the people of Adelaide."

Roar boss Mike Mulvey seemed very sympathetic to the home side as he reflected on the game.

"We were very fortunate not to be three one down at half time, and if they had a little bit more confidence in front of goal then they could/should have been up at half time. They play football in the right way."

"We were not at the races in the first half but I have to give the lads some credit because the second half they showed a great response in the things we talked about in the dressing room. Too much space was given in the first half and we closed that down well."

During and after the game, Adelaide's pitch was the talk on twitter and social media. The centre circle at Cooper's appeared to be in a strange 'wobbly' shape.

Adelaide United F.C.	Match Stats	Brisbane Roar F.C.
43	Tackles	30
16	Total Shots	10
441	Total Passes	415
51.1%	Possession	48.9%
8	Corners	3
0	Offsides	4
11	Fouls committed	13

Man of the Match
Besart Berisha (Roar)



Besart Berisha makes no mistake from the spot and levels the score.



Nay Shall Pass: Ivan Franjic (Roar) slides in to spoil an Adelaide attack.



The Reds celebrate Osama Malik's early doors opener.

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Perth Glory



4

Wellington Phoenix



2

Match Details

Perth Glory 4 (Sciola 15', 90', Thwaite 60', Zahra 82')
Wellington Phoenix 2 (Huysegems 36', Ifill 49')
 nib Stadium
 FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2013
 Attendance: 8232
 Referee: Matthew Gillett

Perth Glory – GK Daniel VUKOVIC, 2 Jack CLISBY, 4 Ryan EDWARDS (11 Alrian ZAHRA 59'), 10 Jamie MACLAREN (22 Ndumba MAKECHE 59'), 14 Steven McGARRY, 16 Sidnei SCIOLA MORAES, 17 Chris HAROLD, 20 Danny DE SILVA, 6 Cameron EDWARDS 46') 23 Michael THWAITE, 24 Matthew DAVIES, 25 Riley WOODCOCK

Subs not used – RGK Jack DUNCAN (GK), 3. Brandon O'NEILL,

Wellington Phoenix – GK Glen MOSS, 3 Reece CAIRA, 8 Paul IFILL (15 Jason HICKS 71'), 9 Kenny CUNNINGHAM (7 Leo BERTOS 78'), 10 Stein HUYSEGEMS, 11 Jeremy BROCKIE, 13 Albert RIERA (23 Matthew RIDENTON 73'), 16 Louis FENTON, 17 Vince LIA, 18 Ben SIGMUND, 22 Andrew DURANTE

Subs not used – RGK Lewis ITALIANO, 5 Michael BOXALL

PERTH GLORY AND EUROPCAR HOST FOOTBALL CLINIC IN CAROLINE SPRINGS

Leading vehicle rental company, Europcar, is hosting a football clinic with Hyundai A-League club, Perth Glory, this Saturday 14 December at Springside Recreational Reserve in Caroline Springs.

The entire Perth Glory squad will be in Melbourne for the clinic following their Friday night clash with Melbourne Victory at AAMI Park.

The clinic is part of Europcar's sponsorship of Perth Glory and will involve a round-robin tournament with the Perth Glory players, 10 juniors from the Spring Hills Football Club and about 50 Europcar employees and their friends and family.

When: Saturday 14 December, 11.00 am to 1.00 pm

Where: Spring Hills Football Club, Springside Recreational Reserve, Lancefield Drive, Caroline Springs, VIC 3023 (Melways: map 356 F4)

Perth Glory General Manager, Anthony Radich, said the clinic would be a great opportunity to recognise Europcar for their support as Perth Glory's 'premier sponsor' and the official vehicle providers for the team.

Sciola double sees Glory race home

By Peter Simcox

Perth Glory have ended their two game losing streak, after a brace from Brazilian winger Sidnei Sciola Moraes gave them a come from behind 4-2 win against Wellington Phoenix at the nib Stadium on Friday evening.

Alistair Edwards' side which had been ravaged by injuries, suspensions and transfers in recent weeks, were forced to field one of the youngest line-ups in the club history, but the Coach was delighted the way they handled the situation. "The players know that we will back the squad and today you saw a very, very young squad," he said. "To come back from 2-1 down at home under pressure and perform the way they did and get the four goals just shows the character and belief in what we're doing."

The home side was ahead on 16 minutes, with a stunning strike from Sciola before Stein Huysegems and Paul Ifill scored either side of half-time to give Wellington the lead, and had them on track to record their first win of the season. That was until Michael Thwaite levelled the scores on the hour, and Adrian Zahra scored the third with eight minutes remaining. Sciola added the fourth and his second in the last minute after Phoenixkeeper Glenn Moss fumbled his shot from the edge of the penalty area into his net.

"Wellington Phoenix is a really good team and they came to try and get a result. I really enjoyed the first half an hour of the game, didn't enjoy the next 30 minutes of it but then the last half an hour was very pleasing," Edwards added.

"The game was a real roller coaster and the crowd was fantastic. They really got behind the team after Michael's (Thwaite) goal and they really were the 12th man tonight."

It was the home side that opened the brighter with Jamie Maclaren and Daniel de Silva having shots that were comfortably saved by Moss. But on 15 minutes they hit the front. Sciola found space 20-yards from goal and the Brazilian picked his spot and fired home giving Moss no chance.

It was nearly 2-0 moments later, 16-year-old De Silva volleyed wide when well placed and Moss then saved well



Brazilian import Sidnei is no dummy after scoring twice in a ding-dong Long Distance Derby battle.

from Chris Harold on 20 minutes, but despite the early set back Wellington began to get into the game and Huysegems and Kenny Cunningham both fired over, and their pressure was rewarded on 36 minutes with the equaliser.

Jeremy Brockie found Huysegems on the edge of the penalty area and the Belgian fired home, past former Wellington keeper Danny Vukovic. Wellington ended the half the better and former Crystal Palace striker Ifill almost gave the lead but his low shot flashed inches past the post.

It was a great start to the second half from the visitors and they were ahead three minutes in. A short corner caught the Glory napping and Vince Lia's cross picked out the unmarked Ifill whose glancing header from six-yards went in off the far post.

A third straight defeat was steering the Glory in the face, but they continued to press and Moss had to be alert to save Sciola's powerful shot on 58 minutes, but two minutes later they were level. This time Sciola was the provider, his curling free kick found Thwaite and the skipper headed home from eight-yards.

Now it was the home side on top and roared on by the home supporters second half substitute Zahra fired into the side netting, but with eight minutes remaining it was Zahra who put the Glory back in front. A surging run by Steven McGarry saw him beat three-Wellington players before the ball fell kindly for the former Melbourne Heart

winger, who fired low past Moss and celebrated in style with a back flip.

The game was but beyond doubt in the final minute. Sciola was hampered with an injury, but that didn't stop him firing home from the edge of the penalty area, although Moss should have saved, the ball rolling under the body of the New Zealand international custodian

An annoyed Wellington coach Ernie Merrick described the performance as the easily the worst of his tenure. "I thought we were just completely outplayed. Perth controlled the mid-field, they broke forward into attack very quickly and we couldn't contain them," he said. "Our defence

was at sixes and sevens at times and we didn't create enough goal scoring chances. We didn't deserve anything out of the game."

Match Stats		
17	Tackles	26
15	Total Shots	18
469	Total Passes	392
54%	Possession	46%
1	Corners	8
1	Offsides	4
12	Fouls committed	15

Man of the Match
Sidnei Sciola (Glory)



Stein Huysegems shoots home for the Phoenix and an upset looks set to be on the cards.



Ben Sigmund and Jacob Burns refuse to give an inch

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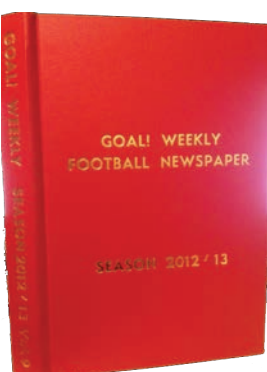
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WEEKLY

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Western Sydney



1

Melbourne Heart



1

Match Details

Western Sydney Wanderers 1
(Aaron Mooy 44')
Melbourne Heart Fc 1 (David Williams 38')
Pirtek Stadium, Parramatta
Ht: 1-1 Ref: Kris Griffiths-Jones
Attendance: 14,549

Western Sydney Wanderers: 1. Ante Covic (Gk), 3. Adam D'apuzzo, 6. Jerome Polenz, 7. Labinot Haliti (14. Kwabena Appiah 77"), 8. Mateo Poljak (21. Shinji Ono 69"), 10. Aaron Mooy, 13. Matthew Spiranovic, 17. Youssouf Hersi (12. Tahj Minniecon 82"), 18. Iacopo La Rocca, 19. Mark Bridge
Substitutes Not Used: 20. Jerrad Tyson (Gk) 22. Dean HEffernan
Yellow Cards: Matthew Spiranovic 23', Youssouf Hersi 26'
Red Cards: Nil

Melbourne Heart Fci: 1. Andrew Redmayne (Gk), 3. Robbie Wielaert, 7. Iain Ramsay (22. Nick Kalmar 66"), 8. Massimo Muroccca, 11. Michael Mifsud (6. Patrick Gerhardt 90"), 14. Golgol Mebrahtu (10. Harry Kewell 72"), 15. David Williams, 16. Aziz Behich, 17. Jason Hoffman
Substitutes Not Used: 20. Tando Velaphi (Gk), 19. Benjamin Garuccio
Yellow Cards: Andrew Redmayne 87'
Red Cards: Nil

Heart Hold Wanderers As Kewell Returns

By Saman Zaiei

Desperate to get their first win of the season into round 9, Melbourne Heart were not able to get all three points against the Western Sydney Wanderers on Saturday, but looked very content with a 1-1 draw at Parramatta stadium, home to 14,549 fans.

Working hard from the very onset, the visitors were able to finally get something other than a loss against the Wanderers in their fifth overall meeting.

It started well for Western Sydney when a free kick was delivered well only for the header to be cleared away from Redmayne in the fifth minute.

Twenty minutes later it was Melbourne who came very close to goal with a nice strike from Ramsay, forcing a save from Ante Covic.

A few minutes later a ball that just could not be cleared from a corner saw Polenz connect with it three times only to leave the crowd on edge with what was each time almost a goal.

Only a minute after Youssouf Hersi is shown a yellow card for a bad challenge on David Williams, the Heart forward slotted home with a sweet right foot into the bottom corner, a shot that left Covic confused whether anyone upfront would connect with.

As silence fell upon Wanderland for a few moments, the Red and Black Block were able to lift the spirits again.

Six minutes later in the 44th minute, Aaron Mooy gets the equaliser with his first of the season. A goal well deserved after two frustrating efforts in the 11th and 17th minutes of the game, showing that perseverance will pay off.

Moments later it was Michael Mifsud who almost regained the lead for the Heart, but was just unable to finish when he found him-



Aaron Mooy strikes home for the Wanderers as Patrick Gerhardt (Heart) tries to block the shot in vain.

self clear of the target in the six yard box.

From then until the end of the first half it was all Western Sydney creating opportunities, leaving Aloisi standing for the remainder of the half.

Hersi was the man threatening again, but this time in the 60th minute with a shot that only just went inches wide of the bottom left hand side.

In the 72nd minute star player Harry Kewell entered the field, but was unable to make any real impact for his team, who looked more content than anything else with the draw. The yellow card handed to Redmayne for time wasting in the 87th minute was a clear indication of this attitude.

The Western Sydney fans were left on the edge of their seats until the last moments of the game with a couple of efforts that looked sure to have gone in.

The first from Mooy who struck hard, low and accurate into the bottom oft hand corner, only to be saved by the fingertips of the

keeper in the 91st minute and in the final play of the match Spiranovic leaped up for a header that only went just wide of the mark.

Setting a new A League record, Melbourne Heart are the first team to have gone 18 straight away games without a win.

The Wanderers, although looking

dangerous at times were still unable to show any real substance upfront with very uncreative efforts on the left hand side and the middle of the park. Having vast majority of their attempts from the right wing, they were unable to stun the Melbourne defence with anything they were not expecting.

	Match Stats	
15	Tackles	28
23	Total Shots	9
426	Total Passes	328
57%	Possession	43%
5	Corners	4
0	Offsides	1
15	Fouls committed	10
Man of the Match Aaron Mooy (Wanderers)		



Harry Kewell made a welcome return to first-team action for the Heart.



It's all smiles for the Wanderers as Mark Bridge congratulates scorer Aaron Mooy.

Couch Potato

ALL TIMES ARE AEDT



SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER
Bundesliga Round 16 Hertha Berlin v Werder Bremen 6:25am LIVE
Copa Sudamericana Final 2nd Leg Highlights Show 12:10pm 1st Airing
Sky Bet Championship Round 21 Leicester v Burnley 11:10pm LIVE

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER
Sky Bet Championship Round 21 Blackpool v QPR 1:55am LIVE
Scottish Premiership Round 16 Hearts v Inverness 2:00am LIVE on setantasportsplus.com
Bundesliga Round 16 Bayern Munich v Hamburg 7:00am 1st Airing
Bundesliga Round 16 Hoffenheim v Dortmund 8:50am 1st Airing
Bundesliga Round 16 Wolfsburg v Stuttgart 10:40am 1st Airing
Scottish League 1 Round 16 Stenhousemuir v Rangers 12:30pm 1st Airing

MONDAY 16TH DECEMBER
Bundesliga Round 16 Schalke v Freiburg 4:00am 1st Airing
Bundesliga Round 16 Leverkusen v Frankfurt 5:50am 1st Airing
Bundesliga Round 16 Highlights Show 7:00pm 1st Airing
Sky Bet Championship Round 21 Highlights Show 9:50pm 1st Airing

TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER
Scottish Premiership Round 16 Highlights Show 7:30pm 1st Airing

WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER
Capital One Cup Quarter-Final Sunderland v Chelsea 6:40am LIVE

THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER
Capital One Cup Quarter-Final Stoke v Man Utd 6:40am LIVE
Capital One Cup Quarter-Final Tottenham v West Ham 6:45am LIVE on setantasportsplus.com

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER
Skrill Premier Round 24 Grimsby v Kidderminster 6:40am LIVE
Bundesliga Round 17 Preview Show 8:15pm 1st Airing
Capital One Cup Quarter-Final Highlights Show 10:50pm 1st Airing

SATURDAY 21ST DECEMBER
Bundesliga Round 17 Frankfurt v Augsburg 6:25am LIVE
Scottish Premiership Round 17 **Celtic v Hearts 11:10pm LIVE**
Sky Bet Championship Round 22 QPR v Leicester 11:15pm LIVE on setantasportsplus.com

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER
Sky Bet Championship Round 22 Birmingham v Nottm Forest 1:55am LIVE
Sky Bet Championship Round 22 Millwall v Middlesbrough 4:25am LIVE
Scottish Premiership Round 10 Inverness v Aberdeen 4:30am LIVE
on setantasportsplus.com
Bundesliga Round 17 Dortmund v Hertha Berlin 8:20am 1st Airing
Bundesliga Round 17 Wdrer Bremen v Leverkusen 10:10am 1st Airing

MONDAY 23RD DECEMBER
Bundesliga Round 17 Monchengladbach v Wolfsburg 1:25am LIVE
Bundesliga Round 17 Stuttgart v Bayern Munich 3:25am LIVE
Bundesliga Round 17 Highlights Show 7:00pm 1st Airing



SBS ONE
Friday December 13th
7:00 pm A-League Live – Round 10: Melbourne Victory v Perth Glory

Every Sunday
4:30 pm UEFA Champions League Magazine

Every Monday
4:30 pm FIFA Futbol Mundial
11:00 pm The World Game

Every Thursday
8:30 pm Thursday FC
11:00 pm UEFA Champions League Magazine

SBS TWO
Every Monday
8:40 pm A-League Highlights Show

Every Tuesday
5:00 pm A-League Highlights Show



ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE
All times AEDT
All games LIVE unless stated

WEEK 18
Sat Dec 14 Manchester City v Arsenal 11.30 pm Fox 1

Sun Dec 15 Chelsea v Crystal Palace 1.50 am Fox 1

Sun Dec 15 Cardiff v West Brom 1.50 am Viewers Choice

Sun Dec 15 Everton v Fulham 1.50 am Viewers Choice

Sun Dec 15 Newcastle v Southampton 1.50 am Viewers Choice

Sun Dec 15 West Ham v Sunderland 1.50 am Viewers Choice

Sun Dec 15 Hull v Stoke 4.20 am Fox 1

Mon Dec 16 Aston Villa v Man Utd 12.20 am Fox 1

Mon Dec 16 Norwich v Swansea 12.20 am Fox 2

Mon Dec 16 Tottenham v Liverpool 2.45 am Fox 1

HYUNDAI A-LEAGUE
ALL GAMES LIVE ON FOX 1

Fri Dec 13 Melbourne v Perth 7.30 pm
Sat Dec 14 Phoenix v Roar 3.30 pm
Sat Dec 14 Adelaide v Mariners 5.30 pm
Sat Dec 14 Jets v Wanderers 7.45 pm
Sun Dec 15 Sydney v Heart 5.00 pm

FOX SPORTS FC
Every Tuesday 8.30 pm

SUNDAY SHOOT OUT
Every Sunday 7.00pm

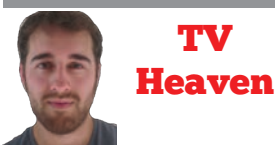
SANTO, SAM & ED'S TOTAL FOOTBALL
Mondays at 7.30pm on FOX Sports 1

SPANISH LA LIGA
Sun Dec 15 Barcelona v Villareal 5.55 am Fox 2

Tue Dec 17 Valladolid v Celta Vigo 7.55 am Fox 1

FIFA Club World Cup
Sun Dec 15 Quarter-Final No 1 3.00 am Fox 3

Sun Dec 15 Quarter-Final No 2 6.30 am Fox 3



Matthew Naqvi

TV Heaven
Finally everyone knows who Australia will be playing in the group stages of the World Cup in Brazil next year. The Socceroos have been placed into Group B alongside defending champions Spain, Netherlands and Chile.

While this has been called the ‘group of death’ by many journalists, this is truly an exciting phase for the Socceroos to see exactly where we stand amongst the world’s best teams. Another exciting element of the World Cup announcements is the push from fringe Socceroos trying to earn a spot in the side.

The A-League has some intriguing match ups this weekend with plenty of potential for movement on the ladder. The game of the round is between Melbourne Victory and

Perth Glory.

Victory keeps repeating themselves this season: fantastic in attack once again but they simply can’t convert. The goal scored by James Troisi highlighted the style of play that Muscat wants them to have; unfortunately not enough chances are being converted. Victory was outplayed last week against the Newcastle Jets on the way to a 2-1 loss.

Perth Glory played magnificently last weekend, slotting home four goals against a determined Wellington Phoenix.

Glory will be visiting Melbourne full of confidence and expecting a point at least. Victory on the other hand will be filthy with their loss in the first game at AAMI Park this season and will be focussed on securing the three points and keeping their top six spot. Victory will not allow Glory the freedom that the Phoenix did and will manage to slot home their chances. This game will be a treat for neutrals with goals aplenty. Victory should

is one of the last traditional “Old School” Strikers in the A-League, as he matches his skills with tremendous physical power.

Brisbane Roar will certainly be sweating this one out!

Australia’s Draw for the World Cup Finals is challenging to say the least, as they will face Current World Cup Winners Spain, Netherlands and Chile.

Ange Postecoglou has placed a positive spin on the tough 3 games that his team faces, in that he believes that it provides the Socceroo Players an opportunity to “Create History” and “Headlines”

Hopefully these will be positive Headlines and History, and as strange as this may sound, Australia can go into these Games with no pressure on them whatsoever, as everyone’s expectation, including their opponents, will be not be a question of Australia winning or losing, but by how much they will lose by.

This can work in the Socceroos favour, as the longer each match progresses, the more pressure their highly fancied opponents will feel, and once pressure sets in, anything can happen.

Speaking of pressure, newly appointed Manchester United Manager David Moyes is certainly feeling it right now, with a less than impressive start to this year’s Title Defense.

As an extra Ball, Moyes believes that they can win the Champions League, as he has probably given up any hope in taking out the EPL Title.

This gives a new meaning to the term “Spin Doctoring”

Until next week.

This is Katsa – Just as you have known him



George Katsamboukas

NPL GETS GREEN LIGHT

The On again – Off Again – On Again National Premier League (NPL) will go ahead in 2014, according to an announcement from the FFA on Friday.

It took a flying visit from a couple of Powerbrokers from the FFA, who flew down to Sunny Melbourne last week to put the finishing touches on negotiations with the FFV and the Co Signatory Clubs.

The million dollar question now is which Teams will be participating in the League, and what flow on effects will it have to Teams in the lower leagues?

Meanwhile, a number of current VPL Club Powerbrokers are keeping themselves busy over the Summer Months, with the recruitment of what they see as suitable players for their Clubs, in Season 2015.

There are some very interesting \$\$\$ amounts being bandied around as offers to these Players, all of these of course, are within the FFV Guidelines!

Over to Japan we go where newly appointed Vegalta Sendai Coach, Australia’s own Graham “Goal a Game Arnie” Arnold is getting used to swapping the Four N Twenty for Sushi.

He is also looking at swapping his Striking Force and has his eye set on Brisbane Roar’s Besart Berisha as his new recruit in the New Year. Berisha is certainly a good get for Arnie if he can snare him, and he



Ange talks up a good game with SBS’s Les Murray at the World Cup draw in Rio.

get over the line 3-2.

The other game to watch this weekend is the clash between Newcastle Jets and Western Sydney Wanderers on Saturday night. As I said in the previous paragraph, the Jets are playing great football and scoring plenty of goals recently. The Wanderers on the other hand have had a rough patch of form lately with two points from their last three games. The Jets will be fearless in their pursuit for goals against the defensive machine that is the Wanderers and I fully expect Newcastle to get over the line in a tight battle. 2-1 at the final siren.

In EPL action the highlight of the week will be the top 4 battle between Manchester City and Arsenal. Both sides are coming off draws and will be looking to secure the win to maintain their spots towards the top of the ladder. City is coming off an impressive mid-week win over Bayern Munich in the Champions League and looks dangerous. Arsenal is flying this season and sits on top of the table, exuding confidence and playing

beautiful football. This will be one of the most exciting games of the season with aggressive attacking at the forefront of both sides’ minds. Arsenal should prevail 2-1 in a classic.

Another key game to watch is the clash between Liverpool and Tottenham. The Reds will be eyeing off a chance to climb further up the ladder and trouble Arsenal for top spot. Liverpool by one goal.

This will be another awesome week of football action and what better way to cap it all off then watching some quality football programs. SBS provides analysis better than most with The A-League Highlights Show and The World Game on Monday night. Santo, Sam and Ed’s Total Football on Foxtel is your go to show for a colourful take on all things football. Thursday FC is your go to for light entertainment on Thursday night.

Enjoy plenty of football action this weekend and hopefully your team wins.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Words: Alvaro Rodriguez

Photos: Les Shorrock Collection, Deakin University



ANGE POSTECOGLU: Our new national coach’s pre-A-League playing/coaching history with South Melbourne is well-known, but not so much is the four caps for Australia he won between 1986 and ‘88. He is pictured here lining up prior to a friendly against New Zealand on 16th October 1988 at Bendigo’s Queen Elizabeth Oval, with Australia winning 2-0.



CRAIG JOHNSTON: Arguably our country’s greatest-ever footballing export (even if he never wore the green-and-gold per se), Johnno’s exploits for Middlesbrough and Liverpool during the ‘80s are entrenched in Oz football folklore. Lesser-known to younger generations are his two guest-stints in the NSL for hometown club Newcastle KB United in 1978 and 1982. He is pictured here during a clinic on a visit back home in the late ‘80s; presumably not long before his sudden retirement in 1989 aged 28.

Breakthrough Performance for Mossy’s Mariners

Central Coast Mariners

1

Sydney FC

0

Match Details

Central Coast Mariners 1
(McBreen 26')
Sydney FC 0
Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford
Attendance: 10,251
Referee: Peter Green

Central Coast Mariners: 2. Daniel McBreen, 3. Joshua Rose, 4. Marcel Seip, 7. John Hutchinson (C), 8. Nick Montgomery, 9. Mitchell Duke (21. Mile Sterjovski 73'), 10. Marcos Flores (19. Matt Simon 71'), 12. Liam Reddy (Gk), 14. Michael McGlinchey, 15. Storm Roux (6. Brent Griffiths 84'), 16. Trent Sainsbury
Substitutes Not Used: 1. Justin Pasfield (Gk), 17. Anthony Caceres
Yellow Cards: Selp
Red Cards: Nil

Sydney Fc: 2. Sebastian Ryall, 4. Ranko Despotovic (27. Chris Naumoff 76'), 5. Matthew Jurman, 6. Nikola Petkovic, 8. Pedj Bojic, 11. Richard Garcia (C), 16. Joel Chianese, 19. Nick Carle (15. Terry Mcflynn 80'), 20. Vedran Janjetovic (Gk), 22. Ali Abbas, 28. Matthew Thompson (21. Yairo Yau 63')
Substitutes Not Used: 1. Ivan Necevski (Gk), 34. Aaron Calver
Yellow Cards: Thompson, Mcflynn, Yau
Red Cards: Nil

By Adrian Deans

I expected a tight match decided by no more than one goal, and while I was right about the score, there was only one team in this football match. It should have been three or four nil.

After an uncertain start, the Mariners returned to their dominant style of the last few years – holding possession and strong enough in their defensive capabilities to go forward in strength. As a unit.

That’s what’s been missing for the Mariners since Arnie left – that pack-hunting instinct that kept the side so compact and difficult to break down in defence, and with so many options going forward. Once the Mariners scored, in the 26th minute from Daniel McBreen’s excellent backheel, you could see the relief and the confidence restored. Suddenly the Mariners were moving off the ball and bamboozling their markers. This is the systematic football that has delivered trophies and Grand Final appearances, despite the constant loss of the best players, and this performance shows that the Mariners have got their mojo back.

After going AWOL against Victory last week, Flores was in the thick of this performance – pulling the strings with Michael McGlinchey. They did waste a number of chances – McBreen and Simon in particular – but the thing that puzzles me most is that they never seem to have a plan to put Duke away. You’d think with his pace that would be one of their default options but it only ever seems to happen incidentally rather than systematically.

In contrast, Sydney were invited back into the game in the second half when Chianese was allowed acres of space on the right. Sydney were astute enough to go there time and time and again and he delivered a number of dangerous crosses and cutbacks. Unfortunately for Sydney, they didn’t have anyone on the end of those crosses – but they should have.

One of the reasons they didn’t was the continuing stellar form of Trent Sainsbury who blends breathtak-



Central Coast Mariners get that winning feeling again thanks to a winner by Daniel McBreen.

ingly brilliant interceptions with outstanding passing going forward. How he has not started for the Socceroos is beyond me, but if he isn’t on the plane to Brazil I will be calling for the head of Ange Postecoglou who clearly wouldn’t know a footballer from a

As for Sydney, they did have some good passages in possession, but no cutting edge (besides Chianese). I found the movement of Abbas upfield bewildering after how well he has played in recent weeks. He was ineffective at left half and Ryall was uncertain behind him. Thompson had a weak game on the right – his passing was simply not up to A-League standard and he constantly let the Mariners off the hook. Football at this level as played by the top teams is all about building pressure through weight of possession, and when one player

continues to give the ball away carelessly the pressure inevitably builds on the wasteful team. Sydney can thank the Mariners’ poor finishing and the superb form of Vedran Janjetovic that the score didn’t blow out.

So, the Champion Mariners are back, but the two things that might upset their season are the departure of fitness guru Andrew Clark (to Graham Arnold’s Vengalta Sendai) and the January transfer window. Rumours are swirling about Michael McGlinchey also heading to Japan, Mitchell Duke to England, and if Sainsbury is still at the Mariners by the end of January I’ll walk naked around Bluetongue. No-one wants to see that so fingers crossed the cashed up clubs of Europe have been keeping tabs on yet another masterful performance by a player destined for the very top.

Adrian Deans is the author of *Mr Cleansheets* and more recently *Straight Jacket* – published by High Horse Books and available in all good book stores. www.adrian-deans.com

	Match Stats	
20	Tackles	19
16	Total Shots	10
679	Total Passes	504
56.7%	Possession	43.3%
3	Corners	4
5	Offsides	1
8	Fouls committed	11

Man of the Match
Trent Sainsbury (Mariners)



New boss Phil Moss takes to the microphone post match.



Sydney FC’s Vedran Jevjetovic is at full stretch as the ball hits the post.



Matt Simon (Mariners) flies high and beats Brett Emerton (Sydney FC) to the ball.

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Melbourne Victory



1

Newcastle Jets



2

Match Details

Melbourne Victory 1 (Troisi)
Newcastle Jets 2 (Burns 2)
Sunday 8th December
AAMI Park
Crowd: 18,000

Melbourne Victory Line up: Coe, Contreras, Traore, Milligan, Broxham (Nabbout), Barbarouses, Pain (Finkler), Troisi, Nichols, Mahazi (Geria), Leijer,

Subs: Thomas, Ansell, Finkler, Naboult, Geria

Yellow Cards: Leijer, Finkler.
Red Cards: None

Newcastle Jets Line up: Birighitti, Neville (Brown), Regan, Jaliens, Kantarovski, Hoole (Pepper), Zadkovich, Burns, Brillante, Gallaway, Taggart (Heskey).

Subs: Kennedy, Heskey, Goodwin, Pepper, Brown.

Yellow Cards: None
Red Cards: None

Burns Brace Sees Jets Gun Down Victory

By Andrew Barisha

Two goals by Nathan Burns saw the Newcastle Jets spring a surprise by beating Melbourne Victory 2-1 at AAMI Park.

The attacker scored one in each half, either side of James Troisi strike, to secure the win in the 1000th game in A-League history. The Victory was coming off the back of a disappointing 0-0 result against the Central Coast Mariners, despite dominating large portions of the match.

While the Jets suffered its first loss since Round 1, last Saturday night, when it lost 2-0 to Sydney FC.

Kevin Muscat was without marquee-man, Archie Thompson, after the attacker pulled up sore from a hamstring injury, with Pain replacing the ageing striker. His counterpart Gary Van Egmond had no such worries, with his only concern being if he would partner hotshot Adam Taggart with marquee-signing Emile Heskey. In the end he decided to leave the Englishman on the bench.

The game followed the pattern many pundits thought would happen, with the Victory dominating possession and the Jets playing on the counter attack.

The Victory thought it had a penalty within the first minute, when Jets 'keeper Mark Birighitti collided with captain Mark Milligan, after Mitch Nichols lofted the ball over the Jets defence.

But referee Alan Milliner waved away the protests as the game played on.

After that the Victory pushed forward in a bid to find the opener, with Connor Pain and Kosta Barbarouses missing decent chances. Left-back Adama Traore had a glorious chance later in the half, when he unleashed a 35-yard drive, but Birighitti pushed away from the goal.

In the midst of the mayhem, Van Egmond was forced to reshuffle his side and bring on Jacob Pepper when fullback Scott Neville hurt his knee, after colliding with team-





Nathan Burns is congratulated by Newcastle Jets team-mates after hitting the mark twice in a productive afternoon.

mate Kew Jaliens. The Jets then took a surprise lead in the 44th minute when Burns scored his first A-League goals since October 2007 when he starred for Adelaide. Taggart found the space to put through a superb ball to Burns, who calmly put the ball passed Victory custodian Nathan Coe. The second half started in the same vein as the first with the Victory dominating possession. The home was awarded for its perseverance when Troisi found the net in the 50th minute. Some nice build-up play saw Pain

play Troisi through on goal, who blasted the ball low into the corner for his sixth goal of the season. But as the hosts continued to push forward, it was caught on the break by another Jets counter-attack. A cross from right-back James Brown was poorly cleared by the Victory defence and came right to the foot of Burns. The 25-year-old had no problems smashing the ball into the net to give the visitors the lead again. After that, the Victory pushed for-

ward, but failed to construct anything dangerous, as the Jets held out for a valuable win. The three points sees the Jets jump up into third place on the ladder with 15 points. Next week, the Jets welcome reigning Premiers, the Western Sydney Wanderers to Hunter Stadium on Saturday night. As the Victory, it falls to sixth on the ladder with 12 points. It faces a quick recovery time as it faces Perth Glory next Friday night at AAMI Park.

	Match Stats	
26	Tackles	29
21	Total Shots	15
486	Total Passes	354
57.6%	Possession	42.4%
13	Corners	2
3	Offsides	1
13	Fouls committed	15

Man of the Match
Nathan Burns (Jets)



Dutch star Kew Jaliens (Jets) attempts to stop Kosta Barbarouses in his tracks.



Adrian Leijer (Victory) comes off second best in this aerial contest with Kew Jaliens (Jets).



Victory Line Up

1. Nathan COE (GK)
2. Pablo CONTRERAS
3. Adama TRAORE
4. Nick ANSELL
5. Mark MILLIGAN
6. Leigh BROXHAM
7. Gui FINKLER
9. Kosta BARBAROUSES
10. Archie THOMPSON
11. Connor PAIN
13. Andrew NABBOUT
14. James TROISI
15. Mitch NICHOLS
16. Rashid MAHAZI
20. Lawrence THOMAS (GK)
23. Adrian LEIJER
24. Scott GALLOWAY
25. Jason GERIA
(two to be omitted)

Ins: Archie THOMPSON (returns from injury), Scott GALLOWAY (promoted)

Outs: -

Unavailable: -

Melbourne Victory v Perth Glory

Victory look for Glory against Perth

Andrew Bishara

After the disappointment of losing last week to the Newcastle Jets, Victory boss Kevin Muscat told it straight when he said the team had to lift its tempo to get its season back on track.

"The game [against the Jets] was really slow and that disturbed our momentum a bit, but that's something we are going to have to overcome and get used to if we want to be taken seriously," Muscat said.

"We didn't move the ball quick enough. People are running to positions where they can't receive the ball simply because we were not moving it quick enough.

"We threatened in patches and in spells we looked pretty good, but over a 90-minute period it was nowhere near good enough to win a football game."

The good thing about football is that the Victory can make up the mistakes when it faces the Perth Glory this Friday night.

Its sixth versus seventh, with both teams leveled on 12 points. But with the gap between the second-placed Western Sydney Wanderers and seventh placed Glory only four points, both sides will not want to



fall behind the chasing pack.

It's still early days in the season, but with the A-League's unpredictable nature, every point is vital in the hunt for the finals.

The Victory has been in irregular form of late, with soft goals and a lack of firepower hurting it, despite dominating games with possession. As for its opponents, the Glory, before its 4-2 win over the Wellington Phoenix last weekend, it failed to win its previous four games.

What can be said of the Glory, is that coach Alister Edwards was without six of his best players, and had to field seven players aged 21 and under, which is a testament to its strength in depth.

Fri Dec 13 AAMI Park 7:30 PM

The Odds	Head-to-Head
Victory 1.59 Draw 4.33 Glory 6.13	Played 25 Victory 10 Glory 10 Drawn 5
Referee: Peter Green	

Radio Broadcast: 774 ABC Melbourne, ABC Local Radio Victoria, 936 ABC Hobart, ABC Northern Tasmania, 720 ABC Perth, ABC Local Radio WA (from 9pm AEDT). Full coverage on Grandstand Digital and Online/Mobile phone app. and SBS Radio.

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #MVCvPER

Kiss of Death Victory 1-1 Perth Glory

to continue playing 18-year-old Matt Davies in place of Josh Risdon and will have to make do without the services of marquee man William Gallas.

The Victory will be favourites for the clash, with the return of Thompson, home advantage and the expectation that Muscat will fire up the troops for the game, following their lazy performance against the Jets.

Yet, Glory can play some decent and dangerous football on its day and while everyone will expect the Victory to bounce back, this is tougher game than most will think. A draw is the best bet.



Glory Line Up

1. Daniel VUKOVIC (GK)
2. Jack CLISBY
3. Brandon O'NEILL
4. Ryan EDWARDS
6. Cameron EDWARDS
7. Jacob BURNS
8. Ryo NAGAI
10. Jamie MACLAREN
14. Steven McGARRY
17. Chris HAROLD
18. Jack DUNCAN
20. Danny DE SILVA
22. Ndumba MAKECHE
23. Michael THWAITE
24. Matthew DAVIES
25. Riley WOODCOCK

Ins: 7. Jacob BURNS (returns from suspension), 22. Ndumba MAKECHE (promoted)

Outs: 11. Adrian ZAHRA (omitted), 16. Sidnei SCIOLA MORAES (Hamstring injury)



Phoenix Line Up

1. Glen MOSS (GK)
2. Manny MUSCAT
5. Michael BOXALL
7. Leo BERTOS
8. Paul IFILL
9. Kenny CUNNINGHAM
10. Stein HUYSEGEMS
11. Jeremy BROCKIE
12. Tyler BOYD
13. Albert RIERA
15. Jason HICKS
16. Louis FENTON
17. Vince LIA
18. Ben SIGMUND
20. Lewis ITALIANO (GK)
21. Carlos HERNANDEZ
22. Andrew DURANTE (c)
23. Matthew RIDENTON.
(two to be omitted)

Ins: 2. Manny MUSCAT (returns from suspension), 12. Tyler BOYD (promoted), 21. Carlos HERNANDEZ (returns from injury).

Outs: 3. Reece Caira (omitted).

Unavailable: Nil.

Wellington Phoenix v Brisbane Roar

Desperate Times For Phoenix As League Leaders Come To Town

Joe Gallagher

It's first versus ninth this Saturday as Wellington Phoenix host Brisbane Roar at Westpac Stadium in what will be billed as a must-win match for the home side.

Wellington's arduous trip to Perth last Friday night yielded their most disappointing performance of the season so far and Ernie Merrick's job gets no easier as the high-flying Brisbane comes to town.

The Roar are sitting pretty atop the ladder and are coming off a victory in Adelaide last weekend that others might have considered themselves fortunate to have recorded.

"We deserve to be where we are on the ladder, I believe," Roar coach Mike Mulvey stated post-match. "Today wasn't one of our best performances, but its important sometimes to win games when you're not playing well, particularly when you're playing against a team that's desperate for points and playing at home."

Prophetic words, perhaps; that final sentence could well sum up the match in Wellington this weekend. The Phoenix are winless after eight games and are in desperate need of a victory to inject some life into their season and create some momentum if they are to meet their goal of the playoffs.

Merrick's men, to their credit, have been largely competitive this term. But



they've been held back by a lack of ruthlessness in front of goal and lapses in concentration at key moments. In two of their four losses this season, including one against the Roar in round one, they were beaten in the final minute of stoppage time. With ten minutes to play in Perth, Wellington were on track for what might have been a meritorious draw in testing circumstances.

Merrick's assessment was a reflection of this point. "The previous seven games we've played pretty good football without having a win," he said. "We're playing good football, we're creating goalscoring opportunities, we don't give away much at the back. But tonight [against Perth] was the worst."

He might be without Carlos Hernandez for a second straight week but will welcome Manny Muscat back into the side after his depleted midfield – not helped by an injury strain to Albert Ri-

Sat Dec 14 Westpac Stdm 3:30 PM

The Odds	Head-to-Head
Phoenix 4.75 Draw 3.80 Roar 1.86	Played 19 Phoenix 2 Roar 12 Drawn 5
Referee: Shaun Evans	

Radio Broadcast: ABC Radio Online/ Mobile phone app

Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #WELvBRI

Kiss of Death Wellington 0-1 Brisbane

Wellington's backline will surely need to curb this trend on Saturday because, the way their luck has gone this season, they appear unlikely to win by more than the odd goal.

Merrick would take a victory of any nature at this stage, with pressure certainly starting to mount around the Scotsman after the stuttering start to his tenure.

"The boys know they've been playing good football," he insists. "I just seem to struggle to get eleven best players on the park consistently, and the travel hasn't helped, but that's just a part of what you have to do when you're at Phoenix."

Without a victory two months into the campaign he is honest, yet optimistic. "Obviously there's a concern there. But I still think we'll make the finals though."

His side would have to overcome history this weekend – Wellington have won just two of their nineteen fixtures against the Roar.



Roar Line Up

1. Michael THEO
2. Matthew SMITH (c)
5. Ivan FRANJIC
7. Besart BERISHA
10. HENRIQUE
11. Liam MILLER
14. Diogo FERREIRA
15. James DONACHIE
17. Matt MCKAY
18. Luke BRATTAN
19. Jack HINGERT
20. Matthew ACTON (gk)
22. Thomas BROICH
23. Dimitri PETRATOS
26. Corey BROWN
29. Kwame YEBOAH

In: 1. Michael THEO (returns from injury)

Out: - 33. Fraser CHALMERS (omitted)

Unavailable: 3. Shane STEFANUTTO (hamstring), 13. Jade NORTH (groin – one week), 25. George LAMBADARDIS (knee - season)

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Adrian Deans does for Sydney's leafy fringes what Irvine Welsh does for Edinburgh's council estates. Straight Jacket is a ripshorter of a ride through the dark heart of the burbs and may just be Australia's answer to American Psycho.

Kirsten Krauth, just_a_girl

Sometimes funny, sometimes disturbing, and always compelling. With a super original premise and a one-of-a-kind protagonist, Deans' entertaining follow up to Mr Cleansheets delivers on every level.

Tony Wilson, Making News

A disturbingly good read. Unnerving and darkly comic. Stuart Quin, Ealing Studios Australia



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STRAIGHT JACKET



ADRIAN DEANS

'Adrian Deans does for Sydney's leafy fringes what Irvine Welsh does for Edinburgh's council estates.'



Adelaide Utd Line Up

1.Eugene GALEKOVIC (GK) (c)
 3.Nigel BOOGAARD
 4.Jon McKAIN
 5.Osama MALIK
 7.JERONIMO
 8.ISAIAS
 9.Sergio CIRIO
 10.Marcelo CARRUSCA
 11.Bruce DJITE
 12.Antony GOLEC
 13.Steven LUSTICA
 17.Awer MABIL
 18.Michael ZULLO
 19.Jake BARKER-DAISH
 20.Paul IZZO (GK)
 21.Tarek ELRICH
 22.Fabio FERREIRA
 25.Ryan KITTO
 (two to be omitted)

Ins: 3.Nigel BOOGAARD (promoted), 20.Paul IZZO (GK) (returns from injury), 25.Ryan KITTO (promoted from Youth Team)

Outs: 30.John HALL (GK) (returns to Youth Team)

Unavailable: 6.CASSIO (hamstring tendon – 5-6 weeks)

Adelaide United v CC Mariners

Sat Dec 14 Hindmarsh Stdm 5:30 PM



The Odds	Head-to-Head
AUFC 3.28	Played 26
Draw 3.35	Adelaide 6
Mariners 2.25	Mariners 14
	Drawn 6

Referee: Ben Williams

Radio Broadcast: ABC Radio Online/Mobile phone app, Coast FM (Central Coast).

[Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #ADLvCCM](#)

Kiss of Death
Adelaide 1-1 Mariners

draw. The A League champions have been paired up against Japanese J-League champs Sanfrecece Hiroshima, Korean heavyweights FC Seoul and another top playoff winner yet to be determined.

KISS OF DEATH
 Despite all the doom and gloom in Adelaide, their football is progressing getting better and soon enough I think their efforts will be recognised. This time around, with the Mariners having such a good record against the Reds recently, I feel this would be a great opportunity to start turning those frowns into smiles with a tough fought out draw

Twitter@mattahoo87



Mariners Line Up

1. Justin PASFIELD (Gk)
 2. Daniel MCBREEN
 3. Joshua ROSE
 4. Marcel SEIP
 5. Zachary ANDERSON
 6. Brent GRIFFITHS
 7. John HUTCHINSON (C)
 8. Nick MONTGOMERY
 9. Mitchell DUKE
 10. Marcos FLORES
 11. Nick FITZGERALD
 12. Liam REDDY (GK)
 14. Michael MCGLINCHEY
 15. Storm ROUX
 16. Trent SAINSBURY
 17. Anthony CACERES
 19. Matt SIMON
 21. Mile STERJOVSKI
 (Two to be omitted)

Ins: 5. Zachary ANDERSON (promoted), 11. Nick FITZGERALD (promoted)

Outs: Nil

Unavailable: 22. Tom SLATER (back – 2 weeks)



Jets Line Up

1. Mark BIRIGHITTI (gk)
 3. Taylor REGAN
 4. Kew JALIENS
 5. Ben KANTAROVSKI
 6. Zenon CARAVELLA
 7. Andrew HOOLE
 8. Ruben ZADKOVICH (c)
 9. Emile HESKEY
 10. Nathan BURNS
 11. Craig GOODWIN
 12. Connor CHAPMAN
 15. Josh BRILLANTE
 16. Jacob PEPPER
 18. James BROWN
 19. Michael BRIDGES
 20. Ben KENNEDY (gk)
 21. Sam GALLAWAY
 22. Adam TAGGART
 (two to be omitted)

Ins: 6. Zenon CARAVELLA (promoted), 19. Michael BRIDGES (promoted).

Outs: Nil.

Unavailable: 2. Scott NEVILLE (knee injury – long term).

Newcastle Jets v West Syd Wanderers

Sat Dec 14 Hunter Stadium 7:30 PM



The Odds	Head-to-Head
Jets 3.28	Played 3
Draw 3.30	Jets 1
Wanderers 2.37	Wanderers 2
	Drawn 0

Referee: Jarred Gillett

Radio Broadcast: 1233 ABC Newcastle, 702 ABC Sydney, ABC Local Radio NSW, Grandstand Digital (from 9.00pm AEDT). Full coverage on ABC Radio Online/Mobile phone app.

[Join the conversation on Twitter using the hash-tag #CCMvSYD](#)

Kiss of Death
Jets 2-1 Wanderers

superb since being pitched together and it hasn't missed this observers eye that the only time the side have been beaten this season is when these three haven't started together. The one weakness that Western Sydney has is an arguable lack of pace in their backline. Newcastle has no such issues in their front third, with the in-form Adam Taggart accompanied by the equally quick Andrew Hoole and Burns will make it a difficult night at the back for Popovic's side. For this reason I tentatively lean to the home side in what is undoubtedly the match of the round this weekend in the A-League.



Wanderers Line Up

1.Ante COVIC (gk)
 2.Shannon COLE
 3.Adam D'APUZZO
 4.Nikolai TOPOR-STANLEY
 5.Michael BEAUCHAMP (c)
 6.Jerome POLENZ
 7.Labinot HALITI
 8.Mateo POLJAK
 10.Aaron MOOY
 12.Tahj MINNIECON
 13.Matthew SPIRANOVIC
 17.Yousseuf HERSI
 18.Iacopo LA ROCCA
 19.Mark BRIDGE
 20.Jerrad TYSON (gk)
 21.Shinji ONO
 22. Dean HEFFERNAN
 23.Jason TRIFIRO
 (Two to be omitted)

Ins: 2.Shannon COLE (promoted), 5. Michael BEAUCHAMP (promoted), 23.Jason TRIFIRO (promoted)

Outs: -

Unavailable: 9. Tomi Juric (knee), 11.Brendon SANTALAB (calf)




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Sydney FC Line Up

- 1.Ivan NECEVSKI (gk)
- 2.Seb RYALL
- 4.Ranko DESPOTOVIC
- 5.Matt JURMAN
- 6.Nikola PETKOVIC
- 7. Brett EMERTON
- 8. Pedj BOJIC
- 10. Alessandro DEL PIERO (c)
- 11.Richard GARCIA
- 14.Mitch MALLIA
- 15.Terry MCFLYNN
- 16.Joel CHIANESE
- 19.Nicky CARLE
- 20.Vedran JANJETOVIC (gk)
- 21.Yairo YAU
- 22.Ali ABBAS
- 27.Christopher NAUMOFF
- 28.Matt THOMPSON

Ins: 7. Brett EMERTON (return from injury), 10.Alessandro DEL PIERO (c) (return from injury), 14. Mitch MALLIA (promoted),

Outs: Aaron CALVER (return to NYL duty),

Unavailable: Rhyan GRANT (knee – season), Peter TRIANTIS (groin - indefinite), Terry ANTONIS (thigh - indefinite), Tiago Calvano (Suspended – 6 matches),

Sydney FC v Melbourne Heart

Sun Dec 15 Allianz Stadium 5:00 PM

Can Heart give SFC the blues again?

Bryson Ferriera

Sydney FC will be sweating on the fitness of Alessandro Del Piero and Brett Emerton this week, as they look to get back in the winner's circle after a 1 nil loss to the champions.

Despite the 1 nil score line, Frank Farina's men were vastly inferior to an impressive Mariner's side, who were out to prove a point after a disappointing display against the Victory in week nine.

Sydney FC did well to concede only the one goal against a sharp and slick Central Coast, unlike in previous weeks however, it was the Sky Blues goal scoring and creativity [or lack thereof] that was most worrying about their performance. Frank Farina was quick to criticize his sides propensity to turn the ball over, and refused to use the absence of Del Piero and Emerton as an excuse for their poor performance.

The previous week against the Jets, Sydney proved they could score without the creative genius of their Italian captain up front, but a well organised Mariner's defense proved just how important Del Piero is to their side.

In spite of a large majority of possession in the second half, the FC midfield lacked invention, and new



man Ranko Despotovic was unable to emulate his recent goal-scoring form.

This week, the centre forward will be hoping his midfield are able to control the ball, and provide the kind of possession that lead to a two-goals in two-game start against Wellington and Newcastle.

The Sky Blues take on the struggling Melbourne Heart this week, whom despite earning a well-earned draw away at the Wanderers, remain rooted to the foot of the table.

An exciting 3 all draw with Adelaide and a gutsy, hard-fought point against a Wanderers team who usually give nothing away at home, suggests the Heart may be on the improve.

An impressive twenty minute cameo by Harry Kewell has also given John Aloisi and his struggling side hope that they might turn things

around this week at Allianz Stadium, knowing that it was against the Sky Blues that the Heart got their last away win, albeit many months ago.

The good news for Sydney FC is that despite their loss, their four game winning streak means they remain in touch with the leaders and are still firmly entrenched in the top six.

Despite the defeat, it will be crucial that the player's morale remain as high as it was during the winning streak that galvanized the team and subsequently saved their coach's job.

Getting back on track won't be as easy as many think however, given that the Heart have their backs against the wall, a position that Frank Farina and his team can certainly relate to after their start to the season.

If this season's results are anything

The Odds	Head-to-Head
Sydney FC 1.91 Draw 3.60 Heart 4.35	Played 10 Sydney FC 2 Heart 3 Drawn 5

Referee: Chris Beath

Radio Broadcast: ABC Radio Online/
Mobile phone app

Join the conversation on
Twitter using the hash-tag
#SYDvMHT

Kiss of Death
Sydney 2-1 Heart

to go by, it seems the Sky Blues are an up and down team.

After three losses in a row followed by four wins on the trot, all indications suggest the Heart may make it two losses for the Sky Blues and finally get their first win on the weekend, although it's at long odds.

Despite their disastrous start, you can't help but feel John Aloisi's side are more than overdue for a win, and their form over the last few weeks has been on the improve.

This week's result largely rests on the fitness of Alessandro Del Piero, although Frank Farina would never openly admit such a thing. If the Italian master plays, Sydney FC should win comfortably.

If he doesn't however, a brave Heart team should hold on for a draw against a Sydney FC team who had the wind knocked out of their sails last week.



Heart Line Up

- 1. Andrew REDMAYNE (GK)
- 3. Robbie WIELAERT
- 6. Patrick GERHARDT
- 7. Iain RAMSAY
- 8. Massimo MURDOCCA
- 10. Harry KEWELL
- 11. Michael MIFSUD
- 14. Golgol MEBRAHTU
- 15. David WILLIAMS
- 16. Aziz BEHICH
- 17. Jason HOFFMAN
- 19. Ben GARUCCIO
- 20. Tando VELAPHI (GK)
- 21. Stefan MAUK
- 22. Nick KALMAR
- 23. Mate DUGANDZIC
- 24. Patrick KISNORBO
- 25. Andrea MIGLIORINI

Ins: 23. Mate DUGANDZIC (promoted)

Outs: Nil

Unavailable: 4. Orlando ENGE-LAAR (Fractured tibia – 6-10 weeks), 9. Dylan MACALLISTER (Hamstring – 1 week), 13. Jonathan GERMANO (Calf - 6 weeks).

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Round 10: ASK THE EXPERTS

THE VERDICT Victory - 13 Glory - 0 - Draw - 2 Phoenix - 4 Roar - 8 Draw - 3 Adelaide - 7 Mariners - 2 Draw - 6 Jets - 5 Wanderers - 4 Draw - 6 Sydney FC - 8 Heart - 3 Draw - 4

Santo Cilauro 23

Victory
Brisbane
Adelaide
Jets
Draw

Last week: 1

Working Dog Productions

George Donikian 20

Victory
Roar
Adelaide
Draw
Heart

Last week: 2

Media Mogul

George Calombaris 22

Victory
Phoenix
Adelaide
Jets
Sydney FC

Last week: 3

No.1 Victory ticket holder

Eddie Krncevic 14

Victory
Phoenix
Draw
Draw
Heart

Last week: 0

Former Socceroo

John Perin 18

Victory
Brisbane
Draw
WSW
Draw

Last week: 1

Hall of Fame Socceroo

Andy Harper 18

Victory
Draw
Adelaide
Draw
Draw

Last week: 2

NSL Champ / Fox Sports

Ross Alatsas 23

Victory
Phoenix
Adelaide
Jets
Sydney FC

Last week: 2

GM Greek Media Group

Jimmy Campbell 20

Victory
Phoenix
Adelaide
Jets
Heart

Last week: 2

Former Socceroo

George Campbell 22

Victory
Roar
Draw
Wanderers
Sydney FC

Last week: 1

Sth Melb & NSL Legend

Jimmy Rooney 15

Victory
Draw
Draw
Jets
Draw

Last week: 2

World Cup '74 Socceroo

Roger Sleeman 20

Victory
Roar
Adelaide
Wanderers
Sydney FC

Last week: 1

Reigning Tipping Champ

John Doyle 18

Draw
Roar
Mariners
Draw
Sydney

Last week: 2

Original Captain Socceroo

Peter Katholos 23

Victory
Brisbane
Draw
Draw
Sydney FC

Last week: 2

Former Socceroo

Steve Blair 20

Victory
Roar
Mariners
Draw
Sydney

Last week: 2

Former Socceroo

Kiss Of Death 22

Draw
Roar
Draw
Wanderers
Sydney

Last week: 2

GW Contributors





GOAL!
WEEKLY



JAMES TROISI¹⁴

PHOTO & GRAPHICS: ANITA MILAS

TWEETS OF THE WEEK

Compiled by Roy Skillen

It's been a tough season for new Manchester Utd manager, David Moyes. Being hand picked by Sir Alex Ferguson to lead one of Europe's biggest clubs in to a new era was always going to be difficult, but you know it is getting really tough when people start making up poor dad jokes at your expense on twitter.

FOX SPORTS Football @FOXFOOTBALL
10 Dec

"The David Moyes lamp. Looks very good in the middle of table". Boom, boom, Simon Hill. More pearlers like this in today's pod #foxfootball

Football Funnys @FootballFunnys
9 Dec
RIP Man Utd pic.twitter.com/uPyINTZd3n



Of course it is the World Cup next year and the football gods have failed to smile upon the Soccerroos handing them an extremely difficult group for their trip to Brazil.

barcastuff @barcastuff
8h

Infographic: Groups for the 2014 World Cup pic.twitter.com/CPTNUZ18dJ [via @sinconcesiones] #fcblive #brazil2014

GRUPO A	GRUPO B	GRUPO C	GRUPO D	GRUPO E	GRUPO F	GRUPO G	GRUPO H
BRAZIL CROACIA MEXICO CAMERUN	ESPAÑA HOLANDA CHILE AUSTRALIA	COLOMBIA GRECIA C. MARFIL JAPÓN	URUGUAY COSTA RICA INGLATERRA ITALIA	SUIZA ECUADOR FRANCIA HONDURAS	ARGENTINA BOSNIA IRÁN NIGERIA	ALEMANIA PORTUGAL GHANA USA	BÉLGICA ARGENTIA RUSIA COREA SU

Many of the usual suspects like Spain, Brazil, Germany and England are hotly tipped to take out the famous trophy, so I thought this would be a good time to look at the playing styles of the so called heavy weights.

In the A-League Melbourne Heart failed to win again but at least they showed some fight in their 1-1 draw with Western Sydney that could suggest all is not lost on there season. The big plus seemed to be the return of club captain, Harry Kewell, his positive 20 minute cameo has Heart fans praying that another injury wont upset the rest of his season.

Sebastian Hassett @sebth
7 Dec

Fingers crossed Harry Kewell doesn't strain his armpit hair in the warm-up #WSWvMHT

And I would love to hear people thoughts on this particular tweet.

MVFCNEWS @MVFCNEWS
9 Dec

No striker, no hope for Victory, says @TheRealBozza -> http://bit.ly/1hGznWA #mvfc #aleague #MVCvNEW

On my whining pom note, there are big changes taking place in the lower sanctums of Australian football at the moment. The new National Premier Leagues are being set up and I for one applaud the football authorities for being bold enough to push forward and look towards a bright positive future. Then I read that these new NPL clubs will be allowed to charge junior players \$2000 for their registration.

TheWorldScout @AussieSoccer
9 Dec

@ShaunMooney11 \$2000 for junior registration far to steep

Shaun Mooney @ShaunMooney11
9 Dec

@AussieSoccer FFA took King Solomon's approach. In original mediation \$2500 was agreed.

Adam Howard @adam0saussies
9 Dec

@ShaunMooney11 @AussieSoccer is this their version of China's one child policy?

TheWorldScout @AussieSoccer
9 Dec

@ShaunMooney11 what about the naturally talented kids with all the passion for the game but no money do they just get left behind?

Shaun Mooney @ShaunMooney11
9 Dec

@AussieSoccer Claims are made that the games tries to help them out. But only a small few. Most slip through the cracks.

TheWorldScout @AussieSoccer
9 Dec

@ShaunMooney11 and we apparently harbour hopes of becoming a top football nation #keepdreaming

Shaun Mooney @ShaunMooney11
9 Dec

@AussieSoccer Yep. The irony is not lost on me.

Adam Howard @adam0saussies
9 Dec

@ShaunMooney11 @AussieSoccer Any kids who choose to go another path invariably get passed over for those who take the formal route.

You guys can make your own minds up about that particular topic. Now it is time for some shameless self-promotion. Check out my new blog The World Scout at www.theworldscout.com

Football Funnys @FootballFunnys
8h

World Cup Mantra For Teams. pic.twitter.com/UJat8btReS



Guess who the Simpsons are supporting this World Cup?
With Croatia facing hosts Brazil in the opening match maybe it is time to have a cow.
Sent in by Greg Zanelli.



Seeking Soccer Sleuths

The Victoria Police Soccer Club is seeking the assistance of anyone interested in helping to trace the roots of the club.

The club celebrates its 63rd anniversary next year, when a large function will be held, and is looking to capture its history once and for all. The role would involve assisting in collating photographs, articles and other artefacts which relate to the VPSC.

For further details please contact Vince Manno on 0403 130 273 or email: vincent.manno@police.vic.gov.au



Victoria Police Soccer Club

Peter Woodcock, Jack Shirley, Austin Baptist, Harry Day, Jock Wood, John Geoff Harrison, Timmy Roberts, Dennis Woolford, Ken Webb, Jock Stadel



Middle Park, Melbourne, July 1951



Boo's World

Mark Boric

Last weekend's World Cup Draw brought back memories of Australia's World Cup hosting bid as excitement and hope was crushed in an instant. FIFA sure punished us for that kangaroo stealing the Cup in the bid video.

Australia's first game will be at the Arena Pantanal. Hopefully it won't be the arena where our pants are pulled down and damages is inflicted as the name may suggest. After that date with Chile, it's only the World Cup Finalists from last time around to come.

Will there be an Anchorman-style fight between the Fox Sports and SBS commentators and pundits at or prior to the World Cup? The lingering, simmering tension will have to boil over sooner or later. The most recent shot came from Robbie Slater on Sunday Shoot Out as he had a go at Craig Foster for celebrating the Soccerroo's World Cup group. We need a steel cage, Michael Buffer to do the ring announcements and Judge Mills Lane to kick it off with a "Let's get it on!"

Good week for Central Coast Mariners. Back to winning form against Sydney FC and no one else left to join Graham Arnold at Vegalta Sendai, though it may be time to change the locks of the cupboard they keep the inflatable sauce bottles in as I've heard he's coming

back for them as well.

Sometimes you just have to read the signs, follow the omens, and just accept that today will not be your day. When a freak accident saw the knee of Kew Jaliens nearly cave his face in during the Victory v Jets game, Scott Neville should just have accepted the stretcher and had an early shower. Instead after the delay in play he was ruled fit enough to get back out on the park, only to tear his anterior cruciate ligament shortly after.

Last weekend's EPL games all had a moment's applause to honour the memory the late South African President, Nelson Mandela. There's been a few movies made about his time in prison on Robben Island, which is surprising because he didn't even try to escape, let alone get away with it. The Shawshank Redemption, Midnight Express or Cool Hand Luke were all better in my opinion.

Looks like Harry Kewell's seen enough of Michael Mifsud missing the target and has returned to the park to show how it's done. All joking aside he showed enough class in his substitute appearance to give Heart some heart that a win is just around the corner.

The Goals For Grassroots segment on the Fox A-League coverage is always good for a laugh. This week it was the trainee referees at the Rouse Hill Rams having their kits sponsored by SpecSavers. Hopefully they give the whistle-blowers get a good discount on what seems to be essential equipment for most of them.

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Armenia



By Alvaro Rodriguez

NAME: Armenia
CAPITAL: Yerevan
POPULATION: (2010 approx.) 3,262,200
CONFEDERATION: UEFA
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: N/A
FIFA WORLD RANKING: 34th
EURO FINALS APPEARANCES: N/A
WORLD CUP APPEARANCES: N/A

WHO ARE YA?

Situated in the South Caucasus of Eurasia, the Republic of Armenia is bordered by Turkey, Iran, Georgia and Azerbaijan(including the disputed territories of Nakhchivan and Nagorno-Karabakh). The history of what is now Armenia stretches back to Biblical times - the story of Noah and the Great Flood is integral to Armenian identity given the Ark's perching atop Mount Ararat; the mountain is a symbol of the country despite being within modern Turkey's borders. The country's red/blue/orange triband flag is said to represent the rainbow that shone atop Mount Ararat as a sign of the world being reborn by God.

Not surprisingly, in 301 AD King Tiridates III made Christianity the state-religion of the Kingdom of Armenia, becoming the first nation to adopt the faith officially(preceding San Marino by a few months and the Roman Empire by three decades).

Its position as a bridge between Europe and Asia meant the kingdom was seen as a strategic scalp by several powers of the day, not least the Byz-

Just in case the GPS isn't working...



SO WHAT YOU DONE?

Upon independence in 1991, Armenia was quick to gain UEFA and FIFA membership alongside its fellow ex-Soviet states - despite the country's deep-rooted love of football, its standard lagged far behind that of Russia and the



Armenian wonderkid Henrikh Mkhitaryan in Borussia Dortmund colours with coach Jurgen Klopp,

antine Empire - however it was the Sassanids who seized control of Armenia and established it as an Arabic emirate for 400 years before regaining independence, only to be annexed by the Byzantines and then the Seljuk Turks, who in the 11th Century established Sunni Islam as the dominant religion. This pattern continued in the ensuing centuries with the Mongols and then the Ottoman Turks in the 16th Century. It was in the final years of WWI and in light of Russia's expansion into the region that Armenians were suspect by their Turkish overlords of sympathy for the Russians - this and historical enmities between them resulted in the Armenian Genocide by the Ottomans; a dark chapter which still looms large over the two countries' strained relations with each other.

Following the Russian Revolution in 1917 the Soviet Union annexed Armenia in 1922, remaining part of the USSR until its disintegration in 1991 - the country's permanent independence, long time coming that it had been, also helped ease the wounds of the disastrous earthquake that had ravaged the country in 1988. Post-independence the country still struggles with the ghost of the Turkish-sanctioned genocide, as well as its border dispute with neighbouring Azerbaijan over the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

Ukraine, whose players had always dominated the composition of the Soviet NT. The country's maiden stab at a major tournament was the Euro '96 qualifiers(as they had missed the cut-off date for USA '94 quals) - drawn in Group 2 alongside the big fish of Spain, Belgium and then-reigning champions Denmark, the Armenians were effortlessly brushed aside, bowing out with a win and loss to Macedonia and a draw with Cyprus.

Their maiden World Cup qualifying campaign(France '98) again saw them grouped with the European champion(Germany this time) alongside Portugal and the Ukraine. Despite holding the Portuguese and Northern Irish to draws in their first two games, any hopes of doing a similar job on the Germans were shattered by the 5-1 trouncing they got for their trouble; a draw with the Ukraine and a win against Albania were to be the high points of the rest of the campaign. Even so, they did well enough to finish above Northern Ireland and Albania in the final standings. Euro 2000 quals saw them finish second-last in a group which featured the old-Soviet motherland Russia plus the Ukraine and eventual winners France - this pattern continued unabated, broken only by their grouping with Azerbaijan in Euro 2008 qualifying; the two countries forfeited their fixtures against each other for obvious political reasons. Thankfully their grouping with Turkey for the 2010 WC quals didn't result in a similar row, but then neither did a corner turn for the Armenians...yet.

The qualifiers for Euro 2012 saw them grouped with Russia, Slovakia and Ireland as the heavyweights; despite an opening 1-0 loss to Ireland, the Armenians began racking up an impressive series of draws and wins - in particular 3-1 and 4-0 against Slovakia, who'd played at South Africa 2010 - to suggest that



Armenia line up for an international fixture with goalkeeper Roman Berezovsky as captain.

maybe the Eurasian minnows were coming of age at last. In the end their failure to beat Macedonia home or away(they had drawn both) cost them a play-off spot, finishing 3rd and making the European football fraternity stand up and take notice; in particular of a young player who played with a sheer finesse and grit not usually seen in Armenian footballers, who'd almost single-handedly humiliated the group's big guns. His name - Henrikh Mkhitaryan.

BIG CLUBS

Historically the country's super-club is Ararat Yerevan, and for an Armenian club during the Soviet era its feats were nothing if not remarkable - winner of the Soviet Top League(the USSR's top-flight) in 1973, Soviet Cup winner in 1973 and '75, and league runner-up in 1971 and '76; cup runner-up in 1954 and '76, was a European Cup quarter-finalist in 1974-75(knocked out by eventual winner Bayern Munich!) and reached the second-round of both UEFA Cup and Cup-Winners' Cup in the '70s as well. Since independence it has fallen on decidedly-hard times, only winning the Armenian league title once(1993), although it does have 5 Armenian Cup wins and one SuperCup win to its name.

It is crosstown-rival FC Pyunik that has picked up the slack post-independence winning 10 Armenian league titles, 5 Cups and 6 SuperCups followed by Shirak FC on 4 titles, 4 SuperCup wins as well as being league/cup runners-up 5 times each.

REP YOUR COLORS

Nicknamed Havakakan('The National Team'), the Armenian NT originally wore the national flag's triband-layout(red shirts, blue

shorts and orange socks) for its kit before switching to the current, Spain-esque all-red with blue/orange trims and white socks a few years back. As for the clubs, Ararat wears a red/black kit somewhat reminiscent of VPL side Dandemoning Thunder; Pyunik wears all-blue with black trims; and Shirak wears orange with white shorts/socks and black trims, rather like Fulham's away-strip a few years back. In its Soviet-era heyday however, Ararat wore a navy-blue/white/red kit reminiscent of the Yugoslav NT, whilst prior to 2011 Shirak wore royal-blue and white, alternating between horizontal and vertical stripes over the years.

MATCHWINNERS

Henrikh Mkhitaryan is the go-to man of Armenian football; a 24-year old attacking-mid who has almost singlehandedly put Armenian football on the map as a nation on the rise. A youth-product of Pyunik who eventually amassed 30 goals in 70 appearances for the senior side between 2006-09, it didn't take long for his talent to be noticed abroad - with Ukrainian side Metalurh Donetsk the eventual winners of his services. Racking up 37 games and 12 goals for Metalurh over the course of the 2009/10, the young Armenian made headlines with a controversial \$7.5 million switch to crosstown rivals and national powerhouse, Shakhtar after his sole season in Metalurh colours. It wasn't a decision he came to regret, as his first season at Shakhtar yielded the Ukrainian title, Ukrainian Cup and SuperCup; not to mention a Champions League run ended by Barcelona in the quarter-finals. His second season was less-fruitful but was marked by the club's successful retaining of both the national title and cup. The 2012/13 season saw the club snare the Ukrainian SuperCup again, and

Henrikh's first individual honours of note (Ukrainian league MVP, league Golden Boot w/25 goals - a league record, as well as appearing in The Guardian's, UEFA's and Goal.com's World's Top Players lists) - in addition, he also scored his first goal and Man of the Match award in that season's opening Champions League win against Danish side Nordsjælland.

Signed for \$25 million by Germany's Borussia Dortmund(thus becoming teammates with our own Mitch Langerak and Musti Amini!), the onus is on the Armenian whiz-kid to provide that last piece of the puzzle that the Bundesliga side has been aching for, in order to cement its place as a mainstay on the continental as well as domestic scene. At international level he has already amassed 43 caps and 12 goals for Armenia, following his 24 caps and 11 goals across Under-17 to Under-21(Olympic) levels before his senior debut.

Most of the Armenian NT ply their trade either at home or in culturally-similar ex-Soviet nations, such as national captain/goalkeeper Roman Berezovsky of Dinamo Moscow, midfielder Marcos Pizzelli of fellow-Russian side FC Krasnodar and attacking-mid Gevorg Ghazaryan of Kazakhstan's Shakhtar Karagandy(eliminated by Celtic in this season's Champions League preliminary knock-outs), among others.

SO WHAT NOW?

Though the Armenians finished second-last in their World Cup qualifying group, they still finished a mere two points shy of the third-placed Czechs and three short of Denmark. Though this suggests the former minnow has certainly moved up a weight-division or two, it will fall to the country's other foreign-based players to lift themselves so as to not leave young Henrikh to do all the heavy-hitting...in any case the future seems bright for Armenian football, and hopefully Henrikh's career will go from strength to strength too. Plus let's face it, the world needs a new Armenian-heritage figure in the public eye to replace that Kim K-whatsername!



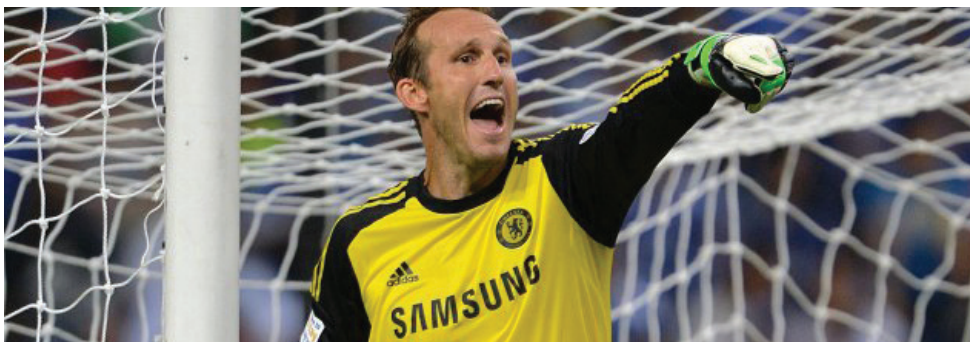
Schwarzer makes Champions League history

Goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer became the oldest debutant in UEFA Champions League history after being selected by Chelsea on Wednesday.

The former Australia international was named in Chelsea's team to face Steaua Bucharest at the age of 41 years and 66 days. Only Marco Ballotta, who fea-

tured for Lazio against Real Madrid five years ago to the day when he was 43 years and 252 days old, has appeared in Europe's premier club competition at an older age. Schwarzer joined Chelsea on a free transfer in the close season, having reached the UEFA Europa League final with previous club Fulham in 2010.

He also played in the final of the UEFA Cup for Middlesbrough in 2006, and retired from international football last month having earned a record 109 caps for Australia. Prior to Wednesday's meeting with Steaua, Schwarzer had represented Chelsea in two League Cup fixtures.



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Serbia and Italy clinch ANC Final berths

Semi Final Day at Egan Lee on Saturday 7th December 2013. The nervous energy around the ground was evident and both the players and supporters were getting ready for a big day of semi-final action in near perfect conditions.

Scotland 0 v Italy 1 AET

Scotland as last year's runners up were coming of a thumping 7-0 win in the quarter finals, while Italy have impressed from their first group stage game. Indeed they had the neutrals installing them as early favourites following impressive group stage performances.

Both sides were feeling the effects of having player missing, but both nations were also still boasting a number of VPL players in their squads for this game. In a cautious game, chances were harder to come by as was to be expected with the stakes so high. Scotland had their chances, as did Italy, but as the game wore on, neither nation could provide the cutting edge and break through. The minutes turned into the full 90, with the score locked at 0-0.

Golden goal extra time beckoned and both nations prepared or a final push to earn a place in this weekend's final.

Again, things were tight in the game, but 7mins into extra time, Italy were awarded a penalty. Jacob Colosimo stepped up and slotted the spot kick past the Scotland shop stopper Stuart Webster. The final whistle blew and Italy had progressed to their first All Nations Cup final.

Man of the Match:
Steve Hatzikostas (Italy)

Serbia 2 v Ireland 1

The reigning All Nations Cup champions Serbia were pitted against All Nations previous winners Ireland in this mouth-watering semi – final. Serbia had progressed with good performances, creating many chances but struggling to put opponents away and Ireland had been physically strong throughout the whole tournament so far. The expected tough opening to the contest was not evident, which was a clear indication that both sides were showing signs of nerves early on. Neither side could find a way through at the halftime break, and both would have to do some soul searching during the half time break



Scotland v Ireland: Captains prepare to do battle.



Scotland v Italy: Steve Hatzikostas slides in to tackle Jack Webster.



Scotland v Italy



Serbia's match winner Milos Lujic on the ball.

and search for a way through.

Both teams came out ready and raring to go, but it was Serbia that created the better chances, only to see them wasted. The game then changed on 61mins when Ireland were reduced to 10 men following a second yellow card. Serbia tried to take advantage of this, and continued to press, but on 78mins, Neil Doran put Ireland ahead. The lead was short lived and Serbia drew level within a minute through man of the match Zoran Vukas. As the game wore on the contest got hotter and hotter. Just as the crowd were setting themselves for another extra

time thriller, Milos Lujic bobbed up in the 90th min to core the winner and secure Serbia's passage into their second consecutive All Nations Cup Final.

Man of the Match:
Zoran Vukas (Serbia)

All Nations Cup Final
Egan Lee Reserve

Serbia v Italy
Saturday 14th December
3pm Kick Off

See you at the game!



Serbia and Ireland line up prior to kick off.



Scotland v Italy



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Futsalroos take centre stage stage but can't overcome Pascoe Vale and Vipers

Men's NIKE V-League
To kick off the Mens round 12 games saw a complete mismatch take to the court when free scoring Metropolitan take on a shaky Albert Park.

The game was all but over at half time with powerful Metro forward Juso Julardzija bagging 8 first half goals to set a new record and help this side to a 12-1 half time lead, the scoring slowed heavily after that with the second half score lined at 4-4 but was never enough as Metro ran out 16-5 winners. The second clash of Round 12 had a little extra spice to it with Fitzroy boasting Futsalroos captain Greg Giovenali and startin Futsalroos man Daniel Fogarty as well as regular futsalroo Fernando De Moraes it was a star studded line up to take on an out of sorts Pascoe Vale but it got off to the worst possible start as Pascoe stunned the crowd with 5 unanswered first half goals almost ending the game there and then, A better second half from Fitzroy saw the half finish at 2-2 but it was all to late as Pascoe ran out 7-2 winners in a big occasion. Following what was a disappointing clash Hume looked to make it 2 wins on the trot for the first time in a long time and get their season back on track and they did just that against a poor looking Mickleham outfit destroying the bee's 11-3 with returning forward Sacid Cicek bagging 5 goals and giving Hume what they have been desperately crying out for a goal scorer. To round out an action packed weekend of futsal Ashburton took to the court against table topping Vic Vipers and got off to a

flying start racing out to a 2-0 lead before an Adam Cooper penalty kept the Vipers in the hunt, It was a different story in the second half though as the Vipers proved to tough to break down running out 5-2 winners.

Women's PEPSI WPL
To kick off the women's side of things it looked a real mismatch on paper with in form Richmond taking on Ashburton. To Ashburton's credit they put up quite the fight but only just falling in the end 5-4 in what was a much-improved performance which you could argue could have been 3 points. Next up was a top of the table affair between Melbourne Uni and Pascoe Vale, Having suffered their first defeat last week Melbourne were keen not to make a habit of losing and they didn't even get close blowing Pascoe Vale out of the water 5-1 in a dominant display of futsal. Following the top of the table blowout saw a resurgent Vipers take on a struggling Heidelberg in what proved the clash of the night, With the game deadlocked at 2-2 Michelle Duffy stood up with 2 late strikes to complete her hat trick and a very important 3 points. Final game for the round 10 women's looked a real mismatch on paper with in form Fitzroy taking on a strggling EFA Eagles but it didn't start that way with the Eagles taking a shock 1-0 lead. From there on though it was all Fitzroy with the tigers banging in 4 unanswered goals to take home 3 big points in the title race.



The Vic Vipers Michelle Duffy on the way to scoring her third goal of the game to seal a hard earned win.



Fitzroy's dynamic duo of Stacey Papadopoulos (L) and Elaina Vatsky are all smiles after bothe playing starring roles in their sides hard fought win over the Eagles.



Fitzroy's Futsalroo trio of Greg Giovenali, Fernando De Moraes and Daniel Fogarty pose for a pre game snap.



The Melbourne Uni girls are all smiles after grace Kim killed off Pascoe Vale and returned to winning ways.

Standings

NIKE V-LEAGUE Premiership												
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	GD	Pts			
1 Vic Vipers FC	12	11	1	0	0	69	39	+30	33			
2 Pascoe Vale FC	12	9	3	0	0	73	36	+37	27			
3 Metropolitan FC	12	8	3	0	1	91	58	+33	25			
4 Fitzroy FC	12	7	4	0	1	63	50	+13	22			
5 Hume FC	12	4	6	0	2	68	50	+18	14			
6 Ashburton FC	12	4	6	0	2	53	58	-5	14			
7 Mickleham FC	12	2	10	0	0	48	92	-44	6			
8 Albert Park FC	12	0	12	0	0	33	115	-82	0			

Pepsi Womens WV-LEAGUE												
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	GD	Pts			
1 Melbourne Uni FC	10	9	1	0	0	62	13	+49	27			
2 FC Richmond	9	7	1	0	1	51	26	+25	22			
3 Fitzroy FC	10	7	3	0	0	38	40	-2	21			
4 Pascoe Vale FC	9	5	4	0	0	49	17	+32	15			
5 Vic Vipers FC	10	3	5	0	2	31	36	-5	11			
6 Ashburton FC	9	2	6	0	1	29	55	-26	7			
7 EFA Eagles	9	2	7	0	0	22	51	-29	6			
8 Heidelberg FC	10	1	9	0	0	17	61	-44	3			

State League Championship												
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	GD	Pts			
1 CF Brunswick	11	10	0	0	1	75	41	+34	31			
2 FC Balwyn	11	8	3	0	0	82	44	+38	24			
3 Moreland FC	11	7	3	0	1	64	45	+19	22			
4 Brimbank FC	12	4	6	0	2	66	90	-24	14			
5 FC Carlton	10	3	4	0	3	50	43	+7	12			
6 FC Melbourne	11	4	7	0	0	58	54	+4	12			
7 FC Northcote	11	3	7	0	1	39	60	-21	10			
8 FC Essendon	11	1	10	0	0	36	93	-57	3			

State League One												
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	GD	Pts			
1 FC Collingwood	12	10	2	0	0	60	29	+31	30			
2 Brighton FC	12	8	2	0	2	64	35	+29	26			
3 FC Prahran	12	6	2	0	4	62	41	+21	22			
4 CF South Melb	12	7	4	0	1	64	47	+17	22			
5 FC Hawthorn	12	5	6	0	1	55	50	+5	16			
6 Toorak FC	12	4	6	0	2	39	54	-15	14			
7 Coburg Athletic	12	2	10	0	0	34	72	-38	6			
8 FC Footscray	12	1	11	0	0	38	88	-50	3			

State League Two												
	P	W	L	B	D	F	A	GD	Pts			
1 Doncaster FC	13	10	3	0	0	56	39	+17	30			
2 FC Preston	13	10	3	0	0	56	42	+14	30			
3 Mcleod FC	13	7	4	0	2	63	54	+9	23			
4 FC Richmond	13	7	6	0	0	66	63	+3	21			
5 FC Geelong	13	4	8	0	1	75	59	+16	13			
6 EFA Eagles	13	4	8	0	1	53	68	-15	13			
7 FC St Kilda	13	4	9	0	0	55	65	-10	12			
8 Elsternwick FC	13	4	9	0	0	46	57	-11	12			



Hume's Resit Culculoglu (L) celebrates with Sacid Cicek after he scored one of his second half goals.

Futsal Oz Scoreboard

Results	Next Week's Clashes
PEPSI Women's V-League Premiership FC Richmond 5-4 Ashburton FC Vic Vipers FC 4-2 Heidelberg FC Pascoe Vale FC 1-5 Melbourne Uni FC EFA Eagles 1-4 Fitzroy FC	PEPSI WV-League Friday 13th December 7:30pm - Heidelberg vs FC Richmond 8:15pm - Melbourne Uni vs EFA Eagles 9:00pm - Pascoe Vale FC vs Vic Vipers 9:45pm - Ashburton FC vs Fitzroy FC

NIKE Men's V-League Premiership Metropolitan FC 16-5 Albert Park FC Fitzroy FC 2-7 Pascoe Vale FC Hume FC 11-3 Mickleham FC Ashburton FC 2-5 Vic Vipers FC	NIKE Men V-League Premiership Sunday 15th December 5:00pm - Albert Park FC vs Mickleham 6:00pm - Pascoe Vale vs Metropolitan 7:00pm - Vic Vipers FC vs Hume FC 8:00pm - Ashburton FC vs Fitzroy FC
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Top Goal Scorers

Mens	Women's
1. Juso Julardzija - Metropolitan - 24 2. Sofiane Soufi - Pascoe Vale FC - 18 3. Adam Cooper - Vic Vipers FC - 17 4. Ricardo Castro - Ashburton FC - 17 5. Ernie Simsek - Metropolitan - 15	1. Marcela Marques - Melb Uni - 24 2. Letizia Sammut - Melb Uni FC - 13 3. Ili Jakab - Pascoe Vale FC - 10 4. Azize Erenli - FC Richmond - 9 5. Christine Duffy - Pascoe Vale FC - 9

Welcome to

FUTSAL



Our Programs

Social League competitions

Training

Juniors

Elite Juniors

Men's & Women's Social Leagues
Create a team for fun weekly scheduled matches

Mixed Social Leagues
Create a team with men & women (min 2 women)

Junior Leagues (boys & girls)
(5 to 15 year olds)
Create a team for fun weekly scheduled matches

Elite Leagues (boys & girls)
Only for elite players –

Social League training
for teams & individuals – improves skills & fitness, including goal keeper training

Elite training
High level training includes goal keeper training

Junior training
from beginners to elite
(see 'ALL Juniors– Boys & Girls 'from 2 years to 16 years of age')

Preschool program
Fun way to start the ball rolling during school hours (1 to 5 year olds)

Junior Oz Clinics
Beginners introduction to Futsal (3 to 9 years old)

School Holiday Program
Every school holidays Futsal all day training & games

Social Junior Leagues
Create a team, for fun weekly scheduled matches (Mixed boys & Girls)

Futsal training
INNER City FC for teams & individuals– skills, tactics & match (twice a week + match)

Elite Futsal League
Join an elite Club, elite skills, technic, tactics & fitness, includes representative squads interstate and overseas tournaments.

Elite Futsal training
high level training includes goal keeper training

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English Premier League



Palace Fights Back

New management always seems to evoke some form of change. It not always good though: just look at Harry Redknapp after he took over QPR last season; it crashed to the Championship harder than ever.

If you're looking for a positive reaction, look no further than Tony Pulis' stint at Crystal Palace, a side that many considered doomed for relegation.

Now, its very early days, and Palace definitely face a struggle to remain in England's first division, but the signs are there that it won't give up without a fight.

Pulis inherited a team who were languishing under Keith Millen's caretaking, after the departure of Ian Holloway. Changing a few things around – formation, and playing style – Palace are one of the form teams over the past five games with 10 points.

It includes wins over Cardiff City, West Ham, Hull City and a draw against one of the form teams of the league in Everton.

The new man in charge has brought discipline and organisation to a team that lacked any structure.

The change of management has been noted, with Palace captain, Mile Jedinak believing there has been a "fresh and positive" at training.

"The gaffer has come in, nailed down a few things he wanted and the boys have responded really well," Jedinak said.



It's two on the trot for Crystal Palace and survival seems promising again

"It is new and we are still learning from him. As long as we keep showing that same attitude towards each other and the gaffer it is very encouraging.

"We didn't want to put too much pressure on ourselves and the gaffer didn't either. It's a great thing we got the results we wanted and we're looking forward to pushing ahead."

Abandoning Holloway's 4-2-3-1 formation, Palace now play a standard 4-4-2, but it works to a treat.

It is solid in the back (with only three goals conceded in the previous five games); press forward when it has too, and ensures that striker Marouane Chamakh no longer holds the line on his own, but rather teams up with Cameron Jerome.

The added layer of attacking threat has coincided with the team's rise in results over the previous month.

So much so, that Jerome said that his partnership with the Moroccan would only blossom.

"It's not really a conventional two as such, it's sort of one off one and we share the workload. When you work hard, you get your rewards,"

said Jerome.

"We seem to have a good understanding and we are hitting it off well. Long may that continue."

The 27-year-old striker, who was misquoted as criticising Pulis for a lack of playing time, said that the new boss has made Palace not give up so easily against higher placed opponents.

"Tony's come in, he's had a big impact, the boys have responded well to him and we're getting good results now," said the forward.

"From a personal point of view and the team's point of view, it's magnificent that someone like that has come in.

"You can't stand in awe of teams, otherwise you get blown away in this league. We have started to roll our sleeves up and show no respect really.


"That will continue with the trip to Chelsea on Saturday."

EPL Preview.

Its first versus fourth this week as Arsenal travels to Etihad Stadium to face Manchester City. With only six points separating

ENGLAND

EPL



Last 5 games
Most recent first

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1 Arsenal	15	11	2	2	30	11	+19	35	D W W W L
2 Liverpool	15	9	3	3	34	18	+16	30	W W L D W
3 Chelsea	15	9	3	3	30	17	+13	30	L W W W D
4 Manchester City	15	9	2	4	41	15	+26	29	D W W W L
5 Everton	15	7	7	1	23	14	+9	28	D W W D D
6 Tottenham Hotspur	15	8	3	4	15	16	-1	27	W D W L L
7 Newcastle United	15	8	2	5	20	21	-1	26	W L W W W
8 Southampton	15	6	5	4	19	14	+5	23	D L L L W
9 Manchester United	15	6	4	5	22	19	+3	22	L L D D W
10 Swansea City	15	5	4	6	21	20	+1	19	D W L W D
11 Aston Villa	15	5	4	6	16	18	-2	19	L W D D W
12 Hull City	15	5	3	7	13	19	-6	18	D L W L L
13 Stoke City	15	4	5	6	15	20	-5	17	W D L W D
14 Norwich City	15	5	2	8	14	28	-14	17	W L W L W
15 West Bromwich ...	15	3	6	6	17	21	-4	15	L L L D D
16 Cardiff City	15	3	5	7	11	22	-11	14	L D L D L
17 West Ham United	15	3	4	8	13	19	-6	13	L W L L L
18 Fulham	15	4	1	10	14	26	-12	13	W L L L L
19 Crystal Palace	15	4	1	10	10	22	-12	13	W W L W D
20 Sunderland	15	2	2	11	12	30	-18	8	L L D L W

the two teams, this has "title ramifications" written all over it.

Based on home form, City is the dominant king. It is a completely different side when it plays in front of its home crowd.

But based on ladder position and away form Arsenal should snare a few points here. The Gunners are the best side on the road, with five wins from seven games this season.

Both teams came off unsurprising results over the weekend, considering the unpredictability of the Premier League this season.

Manchester City were held to a 1-1 draw against Southampton, but were lucky not to lose anymore points after being dominated in the second half. So much so, that Manchester City boss, Manuel Pellegrini admitted that it was "good point because we didn't play better than Southampton".

While Arsenal will rue its missed chances, after its 1-1 with Everton at the Emirates. With City, Chelsea and Manchester United all dropping points on the weekend, the Gunners could have opened up a seven-point gap to second place

Liverpool, but failed, despite taking the lead with only 10 minutes remaining.

It also starts a tough run for the Gunners, as it faces Napoli away, then City and finally Chelsea on Christmas Eve.

Midfielder Mathieu Flamini, who rejoined Arsenal on a free transfer in the summer after being released by AC Milan, has said that his teammates have to continue to work hard to maintain its five-point lead.

"It is a great feeling [to be five points clear], but the championship is long and we still have a lot of teams to play," said the 29-year-old Frenchman.

"Now it is important just to focus on game after game, because we have another big match away to Napoli, and then play at Manchester City, so everything goes very quick in the championship, especially when you have so many games.

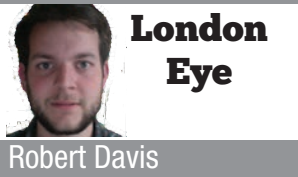
"It is going to be a busy period for us and we just have to focus." Flamini added that the team is very excited to be playing in such big games.

Latest Results	Next Match
Man Utd 0 - 1 Newcastle Utd	Man City v Arsenal
Crystal Palace 2 - 0 Cardiff City	Cardiff City v WBA
Liverpool 4 - 1 West Ham	Chelsea v Crystal Palace
Southampton 1 - 1 Man City	Everton v Fulham
Stoke City 3 - 2 Chelsea	Newcastle Utd v Southampton
WBA 0 - 2 Norwich City	West Ham United v Sunderland
Sunderland 1 - 2 Tottenham	Hull City v Stoke City
Fulham 2 - 0 Aston Villa	Aston Villa v Man Utd
Arsenal 1 - 1 Everton	Norwich City v Swansea City
Swansea City 1 - 1 Hull City	Tottenham v Liverpool

One To Watch This Weekend...

Will Tottenham be able to contain the rampart Luis Suarez, when Liverpool visits White Hart Lane on Sunday night? Apart from City-Arsenal, this is the game of the round.

Three New Managers, Three Relegation Threatened Teams



The fear of dropping out of the biggest money-spinning league in the world is too much for some club owners and snap, executive decisions are made. Managers that begun the season with so much hope and optimism are relieved of their duties in favour of Premier League safety and in the case of the teams that currently occupy the bottom three spots in the table, this is the reality they face as they look to continue facing the best England has to offer.

Sunderland, Fulham and Crystal Palace have rid of their previous regimes before the halfway mark after all being tipped for certain relegation at one point or another within the first ten games by pundits and media alike. But will their decisions to twist rather than stick pay off in a big way come the end of season?

Paolo Di Canio was unsurprisingly the first to go after, to name a few things, alienating the majority of his squad, publicly criticising individual players, offending previous manager Martin O'Neill by calling him a 'managerial charlatan' and of course, not winning a league match since the previous season. It was sadly for the rest of us going to be nothing more than a catastrophic reign in charge and the fiery Italian left nothing more than a lasting celebratory image of knee-sliding proportions.

In came Gus Poyet, a manager not completely void of controversy af-

ter leaving previous side Brighton & Hove Albion under acrimonious circumstances, to try and get the Black Cats playing like a team instead of a group of strangers being forced onto a pitch by an Italian dictator. Within a matter of weeks, it was the newly-promoted Eagles turn to pull the trigger. The victim this time was the love-him or hate-him, all-dancing, all-talking stylings of Ian Holloway after less than a year in charge of the play-off winners.

The former Blackpool boss essentially made a tough task even tougher after conducting some strange summer transfer activity where 14 new players arrived at the cost of around £16million, thus losing the core of the side that won promotion in the first place and even omitting two new signings from his final 25 man squad. A managerial hunt that went far and wide over the international break eventually came back to the beginning as original favourite Tony Pulis eventually took up the job.

Finally, Martin Jol's over-stayed welcome at Craven Cottage came to an end after some truly abysmal displays where players looked resigned to Championship football next season. René Meulensteen, who was ominously brought in as Jol's assistant a week before the dutchman's sacking, was given a chance at the helm.

It's fair to say that during each managers short time in charge of their respective clubs, improvements have been clear and the despair amongst fans has turned to hope.

Poyet's side may still be propping up the rest of the league but some much needed stability and desire has arrived at the Stadium Of Light.



Beats the hell out of finding out you lost your job on CeeFax. Gus Poyet takes charge at Sunderland following Paulo Di Canio's departure.

Where Di Canio thought he could instantly start playing majestic, Barcelona-esque football, Poyet is much more of a realist and instantly reinstated Phil Bardsley and Lee Cattermole to the team. Both had been ostracised from the squad under Di Canio, with the former not even receiving a squad number for the start of the season.

Sunderland actually look like getting points from games and a win against fierce rivals Newcastle will always go some way to endearing you to the Black Cats faithful. Despite this, Steven Fletcher is yet to regain full match fitness and key players are yet to deliver. New signing and Italy international Emanuele Giaccherini hasn't been consistent and is too much of a luxury to have in a relegation

scrap, whilst Adam Johnson is yet to recreate the form that earned him a place in the England squad at Manchester City.

Things are looking better in London though and five points ahead of Sunderland are Palace and Fulham, both in the bottom three on goal difference.

Since Holloway's departure, the favourites to fall through the trap door at the beginning of the season are on an impressive run of from that sees them sit fourth in the form table over the past five matches. Along with Keith Millen, who was placed in temporary charge after the sacking, new boss Pulis and his squad have four clean sheets from five games and more importantly, are beating the teams around them.

The Eagles are worryingly low in quality on the pitch though. Joel Ward and Mile Jedinak have made the step up from the Championship with relative ease and alongside new signings Barry Bannan and Marouane Chamakh, they've got players with not only top flight experience, but with a point to prove as well. Elsewhere, it's hard to see where match-winning players can provide a cutting edge that most sides need to stay in the league.

One thing that Palace are is hard-working, and in that respect, you couldn't ask for a better man in charge than the former Stoke City boss. In retrospect, 'hard-working' isn't normally a word used to describe many of the players inherited by Meulensteen at Craven Cottage.

The Dutchman has been given the task of heaving Fulham out of the danger zone with an array of attacking players that include Dimitar Berbatov, Bryan Ruiz, Adel Taarabt and Darren Bent; not particularly the kind of clientele you would want to take with you into a relegation scrap. But the former Manchester United coach has already made tactical changes just two games into his reign that has reaped rewards on a results and performance level.

Berbatov has kept his place in the team as a lone striker but a three-man midfield that consists of Scott Parker, Steve Sidwell and Giorgos Karagounis has been introduced to provide not only quality on the ball, but a certain amount of defensive ability. Two will sit in front of the back four whilst one will go forward to assist in attacks, but it's when those attacks break down that all three are able to provide drop back and provide cover. This allows Berbatov to find the space he needs to perform to the best of his ability. Meulensteen's tactical awareness is already bearing fruit and it's clear to see what earned him such rave reviews at United.

What will give all three managers a chance of survival is the other teams around them. West Ham United, Cardiff City, West Bromwich Albion and Hull City are just a few of the other sides that could be dragged into the bottom three. Many owners are criticised for their hire and fire policy and their inability to give certain managers a chance, but in the case of Sunderland, Palace and Fulham, the early decision to shuffle their pack looks to be paying off.

O'HIGGINS CROWNED CHILE'S NEW CHAMPS



Latin Wrap

Francis Fields

Provincial club O'Higgins of Rancagua won the Chilean championship this week for the first time in its history after beating favourites Universidad Catolica 1-0 in a playoff.

Pablo Hernández netted the only goal of Wednesday's match in Santiago's Estadio Nacional, scoring with a shot on the turn after a free kick was lobbed into the area from the left.

Goal difference is not used to decide the title as the two teams had finished the Apertura championship level on points, forcing a playoff to settle the championship.

O'Higgins, founded 58 years ago and named after Chilean independence leader Bernardo O'Higgins, won the title despite not being able to play any matches in their own stadium El Teniente which is being modernised and looks poised to stage as one of the host cities for the upcoming 2015 Copa America tournament.

Their matches were staged in Santiago instead, around 100 kilometres from their home city of Rancagua, where an estimated 15,000 fans gathered in the city's main square to celebrate the victory.

In what has been a tough season for O'Higgins, led by pragmatic Argentine coach Eduardo Berizzo, a former assistant to Marcelo Bielsa in the Chilean national team. Nicknamed "Toto", the former Argentine international defender has been in charge since the Apertura or opening championship of 2012 with immediate results as the 44 year-old manager dedicated this maiden title to the people and fans of Rancagua and the sixteen tragic fans that died earlier in the year.

"This season has been a learning curve and a lesson for our squad. Having lost the final in the dying minutes last year, we knew we had



O'Higgins become only the sixth provincial Chilean club to win the league and their first in the club's history

to go one better, and we have. This is a result of self-belief, hard work and a collaboration of the entire club. We have been working very hard and now our ambitions can only grow", reflected Berizzo at the post match conference.

Earlier in the year, sixteen O'Higgins fans were killed in a bus crash en route to an away match in Talcahuano, south of Chile with the tragedy held as a tribute and motivation for the club to lift its maiden title.

Chilean media stated after the play off match at the Nacional stadium that an angry group of Universidad Católica fans waited outside the players' entrance to the stadium and security officials had to intervene to prevent a clash between a member of the coaching staff and the supporters.

CHAOS WITH RELEGATION IN BRAZIL

Fluminense and Vasco da Gama have been relegated after the end of the regular Brazilian championship tournament. The news has rocked the two giants however they both may avoid relegation in the Brazilian league because another team allegedly used a suspended player in the competition's final round.

Brazil's sports tribunal on Wednesday will investigate a complaint that Portuguesa breached rules, which could cost the team four points and allow Fluminense to stay in the first division.

Fluminense ended the tournament as the first team inside the relegation zone, but would surpass Portuguesa in the 20-team standings if the points are docked.

Such loophole could be awarded as Fluminense won its last match on Sunday but that was not enough to avoid becoming the first defending Brazilian champion to be demoted to the second division. Four-time Brazilian champion Vasco da Gama also was relegated, but it would not benefit from Portuguesa's punishment.

The Brazilian Football Confederation said Portuguesa should not have used midfielder Everton in the match against Gremio on Sunday. The player had been suspended for two matches, but apparently Portuguesa was mistakenly advised by one of its lawyers that it was a one-game suspension.

Portuguesa vice president Roberto dos Santos admitted to local media on Tuesday that the lawyer might have mistakenly given the club the wrong information.

"We are on the first flight to Rio

to request a copy of the trial's tape from the Brazilian Confederation to find out what really happened," he said.

It would not be the first time Fluminense benefited from an off-the-field ruling to avoid relegation. The Rio de Janeiro club was relegated for the first time in 1997 and then dropped to the third flight the following year, but a change in the competition's format at the time allowed Fluminense to move straight into the first division in 2000.

The tribunal also said Brazilian Cup champion Flamengo may also lose points because of an alleged irregular use of left back André Santos. That could drop the country's most popular club to the first spot outside of relegation zone. That punishment could be significant because Vasco da Gama is trying to annul its 5-1 loss against Atlético Paranaense. The referee stopped the game after 73 minutes due to fan violence.

The two sides Atlético PR and relegated Vasco da Gama face record fines and stadium closures after their fans were caught up in violence on Sunday.

The shocking scenes of fans kicking and punching each other on the terraces in the southern city of Joinville has provoked a storm -- not



Ugly scenes with Atlético Paranaense and Vasco da Gama fans clashing before the match suspended in Brazil.

least as it harms Brazil's image six months before it hosts the World Cup.

Brazil's Supreme Tribunal for Sporting Justice (STJD), part of the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF), on Tuesday confirmed it was assessing what punishment should be dished out after violence which Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff said the country would not tolerate.

"Given the seriousness of this case we must make a judgement now as everyone wants a response -- we shall not leave it til 2014," said STJD chairman Flavio Zveiter,

adding the Tribunal would likely hold an extraordinary session on the case.

Additional controversy erupted after it emerged police were only on duty outside with private security drafted inside, a decision which had police and state government firing accusations and counter-accusations at each other Tuesday.

The tribunal has said it is unlikely the result will be overturned but if it is, Vasco will have enough points to avoid relegation and that could send giants Flamengo down.



Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Man United	6	4	2	0	12	3	+9	14
2 Leverkusen	6	3	1	2	9	10	-1	10
3 Shakhtar	6	2	2	2	7	6	+1	8
4 Real Sociedad	6	0	1	5	1	10	-9	1

Manchester United 1 - 0 Shakhtar Donetsk
Real Sociedad 0 - 1 Bayer Leverkusen

Group B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Real Madrid	6	5	1	0	20	5	+15	16
2 Galatasaray	6	2	1	3	8	14	-6	7
3 Juventus	6	1	3	2	9	9	+0	6
4 København	6	1	1	4	4	13	-9	4

Galatasaray 1 - 0 Juventus
København 0 - 2 Real Madrid

Group C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 PSG	6	4	1	1	16	5	+11	13
2 Olympiakos	6	3	1	2	10	8	+2	10
3 Benfica	6	3	1	2	8	8	+0	10
4 Anderlecht	6	0	1	5	4	17	-13	1

Benfica 2 - 1 PSG
Olympiakos Piraeus 3 - 1 Anderlecht

Group D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Bay München	6	5	0	1	17	5	+12	15
2 Man City	6	5	0	1	18	10	+8	15
3 Viktoria Plzen	6	1	0	5	6	17	-11	3
4 CSKA Moskva	6	1	0	5	8	17	-9	3

Bayern München 2 - 3 Manchester City
Viktoria Plzen 2 - 1 CSKA Moskva

Group E

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Chelsea	6	4	0	2	12	3	+9	12
2 Schalke 04	6	3	1	2	6	6	+0	10
3 Basel	6	2	2	2	5	6	-1	8
4 Steaua Buch	6	0	3	3	2	10	-8	3

Schalke 04 2 - 0 Basel
Chelsea 1 - 0 Steaua Bucuresti

Group F

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Arsenal	6	4	0	2	8	5	+3	12
2 B Dortmund	6	4	0	2	11	6	+5	12
3 Napoli	6	4	0	2	10	9	+1	12
4 Olym Mars...	6	0	0	6	5	14	-9	0

Olympique Mars... 1 - 2 Borussia Dortmund
Napoli 2 - 0 Arsenal

Group G

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Atl Madrid	6	5	1	0	15	3	+12	16
2 Zenit	6	1	3	2	5	9	-4	6
3 Porto	6	1	2	3	4	7	-3	5
4 Austria Wien	6	1	2	3	5	10	-5	5

Austria Wien 4 - 1 Zenit
Atlético Madrid 2 - 0 Porto

Group H

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Barcelona	6	4	1	1	16	5	+11	13
2 Milan	6	2	3	1	8	5	+3	9
3 Ajax	6	2	2	2	5	8	-3	8
4 Celtic	6	1	0	5	3	14	-11	3

Milan 0 - 0 Ajax
Barcelona 6 - 1 Celtic

Marseille 1 Borussia Dortmund 2

Kevin Grosskreutz scored in the dying stages as Borussia Dortmund beat Marseille 2-1 to clinch top spot in Group F.

Jürgen Klopp's men went into the game knowing that a win would be enough to see them qualify for the next stage, but any sort of slip-up would afford Napoli the chance to progress.

Barcelona 6 Celtic 1

Neymar's 13-minute hat-trick helped Barcelona seal top spot in Group H in style with a 6-1 demolition of Celtic.

Gerard Pique began the rout after just seven minutes, before Pedro doubled the hosts' advantage five minutes before the interval.

Neymar's first goal came in the 44th minute, and he had completed his treble before the hour-mark with two superb finishes before substitute Cristian Tello added a sixth 18 minutes from time.

Georgios Samaras grabbed a late consolation with a header two minutes before the end, but the hosts were in ominous form as they won the group with consummate ease.

Milan 0 Ajax 0

Milan reached the last 16 by holding Ajax to a goalless draw despite playing much of the game with 10 men.

Milan captain Riccardo Montolivo was sent off for a lunge on Christian Poulsen after only 22 minutes at San Siro, but Ajax were unable to secure the victory they needed to progress from Group H.

Napoli 2 Arsenal 0

Two late goals for Napoli proved to be in vain as they crashed out despite a 2-0 victory over 10-man Arsenal.

Needing to win by three goals to definitely go through, it took until the 73rd minute for the Italians to get on the scoresheet, Gonzalo Higuaín hitting a shot on the turn from around 18 yards to

send the home fans into raptures, before Mikel Arteta saw red for a second bookable offence.

But news from Marseille was met with cries of despair from the stands, with Kevin Grosskreutz firing Borussia Dortmund to a last-gasp 2-1 victory and sending the Germans through as winners of Group F.

Atletico Madrid 2 Porto 0

Porto hit the woodwork four times and missed a penalty in crashing out of the UEFA Champions League with a 2-0 defeat at Atletico Madrid.

First-half goals from Raul Garcia and Diego Costa condemned Paulo Fonseca's side to third place in Group G and a spot in the UEFA Europa League, but it could have been a very different story for the visitors after they missed a host of chances in the first half.

Galatasaray 1 Juventus 0

The fixture, originally scheduled for Tuesday, was halted after 31 minutes at the Ali Sami Yen Spor Kompleksi due to freak snow storms, with play resuming on Wednesday afternoon.

And Wesley Sneijder's late goal earned the hosts a spot in the knockout stages for the second season running at the expense of the Serie A champions.

Olympiacos 3 Anderlecht 1

Olympiacos qualified for the last 16 despite missing two penalties in a 3-1 victory over eight-man Anderlecht.

Javier Saviola put the hosts ahead shortly after the half-hour mark, before Sacha Kljestan pulled the Belgians level out of nothing before the break.

Saviola then saw his penalty saved four minutes into the second period, after Cheikhou Kouyate had been dismissed for a second yellow card, but made up for it by restoring Olympiacos' lead nine minutes later.

Substitute Vladimir Weiss had a chance

to all but seal qualification in the 72nd minute, but found Silvio Proto in inspired form as the goalkeeper kept out another spot-kick, before Fabrice N'Sakala became the second Anderlecht player to be given his marching orders late on.

Remarkably, a third penalty was awarded and Proto dismissed for his foul on Weiss, and substitute Alejandro Dominguez kept his cool against stand-in keeper Aleksandar Mitrovic to wrap up the win.

Benfica 2 Paris Saint-Germain 1

Olympiacos' 3-1 triumph over eight-man Anderlecht ensured that the Greeks claimed runners-up spot in Group C, while the Primeira Division side will have to be content with a spot in the Europa League.

It comes as a cruel blow to Jorge Jesus' men after they produced an excellent display against the Ligue 1 champions, recovering from Edinson Cavani's 37th-minute opener to claim the points on home soil.

Lima levelled with a first-half spot-kick, awarded following what appeared to be an accidental clash of heads between debutant Kalifa Traore and Silvio, before Nicolas Gaitan struck the winner 13 minutes into the second half.

Bayern Munich 2 Man City 3

James Milner produced a starring performance as Manchester City completed a superb comeback to beat Bayern Munich 3-2 at the Allianz Arena.

Both teams had already secured qualification from Group D and Manuel Pellegrini's decision to select second-string players such as Milner appeared to have backfired as the European and German champions overwhelmed his team in the opening stages.

Thomas Müller and Mario Götze were on target to hand Bayern a 2-0 lead after 12 minutes, and City were fortunate

not to be further behind as their defence flailed under the onslaught.

But they earned a route back into the match when David Silva marked his return from a calf injury by converting Milner's downward header and the same player won a penalty for Aleksandar Kolarov to equalise in the 59th minute.

The England midfielder then netted clinically as superb Spanish duo Silva and Jesus Navas unlocked a Bayern team who were improbably denied an 11th straight UEFA Champions League win.

Vincent Kompany, Sergio Aguero, Alvaro Negredo, Yaya Toure and Samir Nasri were missing from a City XI that showed Pellegrini had one eye on Saturday's crunch Premier League clash against Arsenal.

Man Utd 1 Shakhtar Donetsk 0

Manchester United finally found their fighting spirit as a 1-0 win over Shakhtar Donetsk secured top spot in Group A.

Under performing and under fire in the Premier League, David Moyes' men responded to their first consecutive home league defeats since 2002 with a battling display on their return to the top table of European football to progress to the knockout stages on a high.

Phil Jones' 67th-minute half volley ultimately proved the difference, but Shakhtar were left to rue what might have been as they controlled the action for long periods.

Copenhagen 0 Real Madrid 2

Cristiano Ronaldo broke the UEFA Champions League record for goals scored in a group-stage campaign as Real Madrid beat Copenhagen 2-0.

The Portuguese - who returned from a three-match absence with a thigh injury - scored three minutes after half-time at the Parken Stadium on Tuesday to take his tally to nine in Group B.

Victory's Record-Breaking Win Ends In Heartbreak

By Katie Lambeski

Sydney FC took home \$10,000 in prize-money after its run in the International Women's Club Championship came to an end, finishing third in the tournament courtesy of a penalty shoot-out win over Chilean and South American champions Colo Colo. The two sides couldn't be separated after a dramatic 3-3 encounter over the 90 minutes, Sydney FC made it difficult after losing their 3-1 lead after two late strikes from Colo Colo's Lara made it all square again on the 88th minute.

It was a feat made even more remarkable as the Chileans had to come back into the match with 10 players, when Rocio Soto was booked a second time moments before the half-time whistle sounded. Sydney took charge of the match as Ellyse Perry and Trudy Camilleri cancelled out the opener from Ascanio. Renee Rollason's 79th minute goal should have put Sydney home, it wasn't to be. Nerves of steel from the spot by Rollason, Anna Green, Nicola Bolger, Samantha Kerr and a save from Casey Dumont sent the Sky Blues home happy.

The W-League ladder is starting to take shape, followed by another exciting round as Melbourne Victory took full toll of the Newcastle Jets in a 6-0 win which was overshadowed by a shattering ACL injury to a young star, Perth Glory and Adelaide United played out a close game, as did Brisbane Roar and Canberra United.

Victory returned to Melbourne for the first time in three weeks at Kingston Heath Reserve, doing it in style with a 6-0 win over Newcastle Jets. A hat-trick from striker Caitlin Friend (which saw her become the leading goal-scorer this season and equal the Victory



Caitlin Friend (second from right) shares a high ten with Gulcan Koca as team mates move in to celebrate the first goal of her hat trick for Victory

goalscoring record), a brace from Enza Barilla led the win, as full-back/wide midfielder Gulcan Koca chipped in with a goal of her own. However, the result took a back seat as the return of Ashley Brown ended in heartbreak as she re-injured the same ACL she injured last season in the dying minutes.

Despite a bright start from Newcastle in the opening half-hour, they fell away as Victory got in to a relentless mood. A lucky opener from Friend got the Victory going, as Koca fired off a shot to the left corner past Eliza Campbell. The third goal on the stroke of half-time, a Friend tap-in, signified how easy it became for Victory as the Jets tired. Another three made the

match a procession for the Victory. While Newcastle showed good signs, more needs to be done to contend with W-League teams.

A Rosie Sutton header proved the difference for Perth as they sunk the visiting, rejuvenated Adelaide United at Percy Doyle Reserve on Saturday evening. Sutton met a cross from midfielder/captain Collette McCullum to head past Melissa Barbieri on the 89th minute. The result reflected Perth's control for most of the game, with Adelaide only recording a chance on the 59th minute.

A sturdy Adelaide held Perth away for most part, as the visitors back four led by Jenna McCormick and Jessie Wharepouri, a tribute to some

of the work done at the club. Adelaide had late chances to snatch an unlikely three points, but let them fritter away. McCullum helped to create the difference, with her good game in midfield capped off with an assist.

Canberra United suffered their first defeat of the season as Elise Kellond-Knight helped the Roar to a 1-0 courtesy of her 8th minute goal. Canberra looked second-best for most of the game, but were left to rue a missed penalty just 15 minutes in the game. Ashleigh Sykes' dazzling run to the left flank made it in to the penalty area, and subsequently won the penalty. Lori Lindsey's penalty smashed off the left crossbar, clearly a chance gone

begging.

Sykes stood out for the majority of the match as well as Lindsey and Kendall Fletcher, often leading Canberra's forward forays but unfortunately for Liesbeth Migchelsen's side, the team didn't follow along with her. Warm conditions took their toll as the game wore on, more so evident in the second half, but the organised Brisbane Roar handled it better to see out the match. A chance to Canberra via a cross/shot from Meg McLaughlin came with just ten minutes to play, although it flew wide.

The awaited Sydney derby didn't take place, due to International Women's Club Championship duties for Sydney FC. The match has now been rescheduled for January 15th.

Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	P
1 Melbourne Victory	4	3	0	1	12	6	6	9
2 Brisbane Roar	4	3	0	1	8	4	4	9
3 Sydney FC	2	2	0	0	9	1	8	6
4 Canberra United	3	2	0	1	5	1	4	6
5 Perth Glory	4	2	0	2	7	8	-1	6
6 Adelaide United	4	1	1	2	4	5	-1	4
7 Wanderers	3	0	1	2	2	7	-5	1
8 Newcastle Jets	4	0	0	4	3	18	-15	0

Next Round

Sat 14 Dec KO 2:00pm Wanderers Vs Perth Glory Marconi Stadium
Sat 14 Dec KO 3:00pm Newcastle Jets Vs Canberra United Wanderers Oval
Sun 15 Dec KO 2:00pm Brisbane Roar Vs Adelaide United QSAC
Sun 15 Dec KO 2:15pm Sydney FC Vs Melbourne Victory Allianz Stadium

Round 4 Review

Melbourne Victory 6 (Caitlin Friend 31', 42', 69', Enza Barilla 52', 70', Gulcan Koca 34')
Newcastle Jets 0
Saturday 7 December 2013
Kingston Heath Soccer Complex, Melbourne
Local Kick-Off: 3pm
Referee: Rachel Mitchenson

Melbourne Victory: Cassandra Dimovski (Gk), Jessica Humble, Katie Hoyle, Stephanie Catley, Caitlin Friend (Laura Spiranovic 75'), Jessica Fishlock, Lisa De Vanna, Jessica Samuelsson, Enza Barilla, Emma Checker (Alexandra Natoli 88'), Gulcan Koca (Ashley Brown 63')
Substitutes –Melissa MaiZels
Cautions – Nil

Newcastle Jets: Eliza Campbell (Gk) (Ainsley Buchanan 60'), Hannah Brewer, Stacey Day, Shahn Bozanic, Ashley Spina (Maddie Searl 63'), Gema Simon, Tara Andrews, Rhali Dobson, Hannah Beard, Cassidy Davis, Adriana Jones (Jasmin Courteney 79')
Substitutes – Sophie Nenadovic
Cautions – Nil

Perth Glory 1 (Rosie Sutton 89')

Adelaide United 0
Saturday 7 December 2013
Percy Doyle Reserve, Perth
Local Kick-Off: 5pm
Referee: Rebecca Durcrau

Perth Glory: Chantel Jones (Gk), Sarah CaRroll, Cecilie Sandvej, Bronwyn Studman, Sasha Andrews, Rosie Sutton, Elisa D'ovidio (Ella Mastrantonio 63'), Collette Mccallum, Marianna Tabain, Shawn Billam (Shannon May 63'), Christina Julien
Substitutes – Kathleen Waycott (Gk), Thia Eastman
Cautions – Nil

Adelaide United: Melissa Barbieri (Gk), Jessie Wharepouri (Monique Iannella 74'), Laura Stockdale, Lisa-Marie Woods, Daila-Tais Borg, Jayah Brown (Jessica Waterhouse 66'), Jenna McCormick, Tiarn Powell Daniela Di Bartolo (Isabel Hodgson 46'), SnezhelJanova, Kristy Moore
Substitutes – Kelly Barltrop (Gk)
Cautions – Waterhouse 76'

Canberra United 0

Brisbane Roar 1 (Elise Kellond-Knight 8')
Sunday 8 December 2013
Mckellar Park, Canberra
Local Kick-Off: 3pm
Referee: Kirralee Andruschak

Canberra United: Lydia Williams (Gk), Catherine Brown (Georgia Yeoman-Dale 75'), Kendall Fletcher, Ellie Brush, Grace Gill (Caitlin Munoz 60'), Michelle Heyman, Sally Rojahn, Nicole Sykes, Ashleigh Sykes (Meg McLaughlin 85'), Lori Lindsey, Stephanie Ochs
Substitutes – Trudy Burke (Gk)
Cautions – Nil

Brisbane Roar: Kate Stewart (Gk), Laura Alloway, Amy Chapman, Clare Polkinghorne, Brooke Spence, Kim Carroll, Elise Kellond-Knight, Larissa Crummer (Joanne Burgess 62'), Katrina Gorry, Vedrana Popovic, Hayley Raso
Substitutes – Nadine Angerer (Gk), Natasha Wheeler, Ayesha Kirby
Cautions – Hayley Raso 44'

**** Sydney FC V Western Sydney Wanderers Postponed Due To Sydney FC's Participation In The Women's World Club Championship.**



Ash Brown's return from a knee injury ends in heartbreak as she suffers a similar injury in the last seconds of the Melbourne Victory v Newcastle Jets match.



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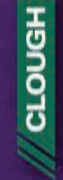
2013/14 PERTH GLORY FC SQUAD



BACK ROW: Harry O'Brien, Ryan Edwards, Jamie MacLaren, Ndumba Makeche, Steve Pantelidis, Ljubo Milicivic, Michael Thwaite, Jack Clisby, Dean Evans, Ryo Nagai, Danny De Silva
MIDDLE ROW: Neil Young (Goalkeeping Coach), Matthew Davies, Sidnei Sciola Moraes, Cameron Edwards, Danny Vukovic, Jack Duncan, Isaka Cernak, Brandon O'Neil, Travis Dodd, Riley Woodcock, Adrian Zahra
FRONT ROW: Chris Hutchinson (Physiotherapist), Scott Miller (Assistant Coach), Christopher Harold, Shane Smeltz, Jacob Burns (Captain), Alistair Edwards (Head Coach), Steven McGarry, Scott Jamieson, Joshua Risdon, Gareth Naven (Senior Assistant Coach), Brett Lambert (Kit Manager)



PRINCIPAL PARTNER





Tomasz Ng

There were some big winners and losers in Round 7, with some teams left wondering what could have been while others celebrating a good performance and result.

The best viewing of the weekend came in Wollongong, as Sydney FC came from behind to beat Melbourne Heart 4-3, and consolidate their position at the top of the table.

Heart were looking great in the first half, and got a deserved lead at the break thanks to goals from Mate Dugandzic and Marcus Schroen.

But Sydney came back strong in the second half and a Corey Gameiro brace sealed the result, a feat which would no doubt have pleased senior boss Frank Farina.

While Heart came away from the match with nothing, it was a much improved performance for them after their disappointing loss to Adelaide United last week.

The Reds in contrast fared poorly this week, as they went down 3-1 to Brisbane Roar, having played 80 minutes with only ten men.

Paul Izzo was punished early by Samed Altundag while Dimi Petratos scored a penalty after Brandon Borrello was felled to make it 2-0 after just 10 minutes.

Despite that horrible start, which also saw Shaun Harvey sent off for the foul on Borrello, Adelaide regained some composure and

Sky Blues Break Melbourne's Heart



Melling scores the consolation goal for Adelaide United in the 3-1 home defeat to Brisbane Roar. Photo ADAM BUTLER

managed to control periods of the game.

The damage was done however, and Jacob Melling's powerful effort to reduce the deficit was in vain as Brisbane sealed the result through Borrello, and took all three points home with them.

They now face an AIS side which has surprised many this season, with their latest victims being Perth Glory.

Perth have had a bit of a resurgence in the last couple of weeks, but reverted back to early season form losing 4-2 to the institute side.

Anthony Kalik cancelled out Ndumba Makeche's early goal, and the AIS simply ran away with the game from then on.

Goals to Dylan Smith, Bai Antoniou and Matthew Schmidt secured the win, and ended their three match streak without a win.

A team just keen to get their first win on the board is the Central Coast Mariners, who remain rooted to the foot of the table after losing 3-0 to Western Sydney Wanderers.

The hosts scored through Joshua Sotirio, Jake McGing and Alusine Fofanah to compound the misery

on Patrick Zwaanswijk's young squad, who actually finished with ten men with Josh Bingham seeing red just before half time.

Western Sydney were in full control of the contest and the result never really looked in doubt.

With three wins now under their belt, it perfectly sets up next week's youth derby with both Sydney sides in good form.

Another in form team at the minute is Newcastle Jets, who came from behind to beat Melbourne Victory 2-1, taking their winning streak up

Results	
Western Sydney Wanderers 3 (Sotirio 31, McGing 75, Fofanah 92) Central Coast Mariners 0	
Sydney FC 4 (Marc Warren 14', Anthony Tomelic 55', Corey Gameiro 70', 80') Melbourne Heart 3 (Mate Dugandzic 13', 92', Marcus Schroen 43')	
Melbourne Victory 1 (Stella 14) Newcastle Jets 2 (Gibbs 35, Virgili 40)	
Perth Glory 2 (Makeche 8m, Jovic 88m) AIS 4 (Kalik 38m, Smith 46m, Antoniou 67m, Schmidt 70m)	
Adelaide United 1 (Melling 66) Brisbane Roar Youth 3 (Altundag 7, Petratos 10, Borrello 72)	

NYL Standings	
	P W D L F A D P
1 Sydney FC	7 6 0 1 20 11 9 18
2 Newcastle Jets	7 5 0 2 19 10 9 15
3 Adelaide United	7 3 2 2 11 11 0 11
4 Brisbane Roar	7 3 2 2 16 17 -1 11
5 Melbourne Victory	7 3 1 3 17 12 5 10
6 Wanderers	7 3 1 3 12 10 2 10
7 AIS	7 3 1 3 16 18 -2 10
8 Melbourne Heart	7 2 1 4 9 15 -6 7
9 Perth Glory	7 2 0 5 14 21 -7 6
10 CC Mariners	7 0 2 5 4 13 -9 2

Next Round	
Saturday, 14 December 2013 Wanderers v Sydney FC Marconi Stadium KO 5:00 PM	
Sunday, 15 December 2013 Adelaide United v Mariners Parra Hills KO 11:00 AM	
Sunday, 15 December 2013 Newcastle Jets v Melbourne Heart Wanderers Oval KO 10:30AM	
Sunday, 15 December 2013 AIS v Brisbane Roar AIS Grass 2 KO 3:00 PM	
Sunday, 15 December 2013 Melbourne Victory v Perth Glory Lakeside Stadium KO 3:00PM	

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Friendship Cup Hosts International Guests

The Friendship Cup began in 1998 to promote integration between Brazilian and Japanese under fifteen (U-15) players in order to develop boys into real athletes. Fifteen and sixteen is a crucial age to reach a high level of competency in football. The Cup is now considered one of the most important competitions in the U-15/16 class. This tournament takes place each August at Zico's Soccer Centre (Recreio dos Bandeirantes) and Rio CFZ's Training Center (Vargem Pequena). Zico is one of the highest scoring footballers on Brazil's National Team. He has coached Brazil and is often called the 'White Pele'.

THE BEGINNING – The Friendship Cup tournament began to have more concentrated management beginning in the mid-nineties. This is mostly because of Zico's exposure in Japan that led to developing close connections in Japan's soccer league. Zico was a key player for Japan's Kashima Antlers until 1994. He also served as the technical coordinator for the Antlers. In 1997, efforts to organize the Friendship Cup resulted in the first tournament being held.

In August, the Kashima Antlers would come to Zico's Soccer Centre for a ten-day training period to keep in touch with Brazilian soccer. It is not known who came up with the idea of the tournament, but Zico, Zico Soccer Centre's managers and the Japanese club's marketing director, Takashima, agreed it would be better to let the young footballers compete, instead of just training. Not only because this helps integration, but also because the young men that trained at the club returned to Japan with different technical skills, thus confirming the quick



Bojo Jevdjovic (Bowen Soccer), Andre` Lazaroni (Secretary of Sports of Rio De Janiro), Fernando Vannucci (Coach- Brazilian Copa Zico 10) with the Friendship Cup.

evolution and development gained from the interchange. Zico commented, "We left them with our teachers, many of them quality players of the past, like Andrade, for example. And, when coming back home, both the boys and the teams achieved amazing results at local tournaments. They reached titles. The Japanese people give a lot of importance to the Friendship Cup. We have

Japanese sponsors, good promotion and the matches are aired by a local tv show". Antônio Simões da Costa, CFZ's vice-president, suggested naming the competition s "Friendship Cup". This highlights the friendly aspects of the relationship between Japanese and Brazilian peoples. This resulted in a new U-15 tournament that began in August of 1998 that was wholly

organized by the professionals at Zico's Soccer Centre. By the sixth edition, 25 teams had participated. Rio's CFZ for the first time in 2003. The Australian Connection: Bowen Soccer Australia (BSA) is based in Melbourne, Australia. For many years, Bowen players have travelled the world to compete in international football. BSA's Youth teams have visited Asia, Europe and South America to compete in

many high profile tournaments. From these visits, Bowen players have been given the opportunity for trials and have signed at many different overseas clubs. Zico Soccer Centre for the first time opened the friendship cup to another country and invited Bowen Soccer Australia players to visit and play in the International Tour to Brazil in 2013. While there, the idea of bringing the Friend-

ship Cup to Australia was born. BSA was welcomed in into the Friendship Cup, leading the birth of Melbourne Friendship Cup. This was the beginning in creating the football triangle of Brazil, japan and now Australia.

This year's Friendship Cup in Australia welcomes many strong local teams and an international team from Brazil. Local teams are made up of strong participants that have trained very hard to give the Brazilians a good competition. With Kashima Antlers from Japan confirmed for next year the Melbourne friendship cup is going to be the most unique international tournament in Australia. With participation from these strong teams, the Melbourne Friendship Cup will be 'the' youth competition. Come and cheer your team on. Come and support our budding footballers. Next year, the Melbourne Friendship Cup has firm attendance commitments from teams from Japan, Malaysia, Indonesia and Brazil, to name a few.

The Friendship Cup runs from Saturday 14 December to Tuesday 17 December 2013.

It will take place at White Eagles Stadium, 310-322 Perry Road, Kaysborough, Victoria (Melbourne).

The opening ceremony commences at 9.30 am on Saturday 14 December.

Matches to start at 10.am
1st Match is Brazil vs Australia

Tickets are available at the gate. Detailed game schedules and a further information can be found at www.melbournefriendshipcup.com

Italian Serie A



Luca Cetta

Juve in seventh heaven with Vidal on song

Arturo Vidal rounded out a momentous week by netting in Bologna, giving leaders Juventus their seventh successive victory.

The search for Juventus' highly publicised 'top player' entered its third summer by the time Carlos Tevez signed on the dotted line this past June. His arrival was met with great fanfare.

Just perhaps, they had this player in their ranks all along. The player who last season was Juve's leading scorer. Signed from Bayer Leverkusen in 2011, Arturo Vidal is a midfielder by trade, but can do it all. His tackling ability has led to the nickname 'Captain Hook'. He's also known as 'The Warrior'. His never-say-die attitude and desire to win the ball makes Vidal a fearsome opponent.

But there's the other side to his game. Vidal is not only defensively capable, but scores too. In 100 Juventus appearances, Vidal netted 32 times - the highest scorer during Antonio Conte's tenure. His sense of timing and knack for critical goals another facet of his game. Of those 32 strikes, 14 have proven decisive



Captain Hook shares the love....and the goals!

– either giving Juventus the lead or erasing a deficit. In the run home last term Vidal netted five times in four games, the last of which sealed the Scudetto.

Needing a win in their fifth Group B Champions League encounter against FC Copenhagen, the Chilean stood tall. Sitting bottom with just three points before the clash, Vidal opened the scoring via the penalty spot. Former Juventus defender Olof Mellberg equalised, but five minutes later Vidal was back at the spot restoring the advantage. He then completed only the second hat-trick of Conte's spell two minutes later. Five Champions League starts, five goals for Vidal.

Last Tuesday it was announced Vidal had extended his contract until 2017, earning a pay rise in the process. It's believed the Chile international now nets around €5.5m, putting him behind Tevez as the highest earner at the club. It also came amid constant speculation

Bayern Munich and Real Madrid were lining up bids.

"Since joining from Bayer Leverkusen in the summer of 2011, the midfielder's sensational performances have enabled him to become a firm fans' favourite and provided the driving force behind back-to-back Scudetto and Super Cup triumphs," read a statement on the club's website. "Today's agreement marks the latest chapter in El Guerrero's Juventus career, a story the determined performer will strive to enrich by achieving the club's next principle target come May – a historic third consecutive Scudetto title."

Vidal took to Twitter to express his gratitude. "Thanks Juventus for all the love you have shown me since the first day I arrived in this family."

Two days earlier the Bianconeri secured a last-gasp winner against Udinese, their sixth successive victory in Serie A. Those six wins were

ITALY Serie A												Last5games Most recent first	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts					
1 Juventus	15	13	1	1	31	10	+21	40	W	W	W	W	W
2 Roma	15	11	4	0	29	5	+24	37	W	D	D	D	D
3 Napoli	15	10	2	3	31	17	+14	32	D	W	L	L	W
4 Internazionale	15	7	7	1	34	17	+17	28	D	D	D	W	W
5 Fiorentina	15	8	3	4	29	20	+9	27	L	W	L	W	W
6 Hellas Verona	15	8	1	6	27	25	+2	25	W	L	L	L	W
7 Torino	15	4	7	4	24	23	+1	19	W	D	W	L	D
8 Genoa	15	5	4	6	16	18	-2	19	L	D	D	W	W
9 Milan	15	4	6	5	23	23	+0	18	D	W	D	D	L
10 Parma	15	4	6	5	22	24	-2	18	D	D	W	D	L
11 Cagliari	15	4	6	5	17	23	-6	18	W	D	D	W	L
12 Lazio	15	4	5	6	19	22	-3	17	L	D	D	L	L
13 Atalanta	15	5	2	8	16	20	-4	17	L	D	L	L	L
14 Udinese	15	5	2	8	15	19	-4	17	D	L	W	L	L
15 Chievo	15	4	3	8	12	18	-6	15	W	W	W	D	D
16 Sampdoria	15	3	5	7	17	24	-7	14	W	D	D	L	L
17 Sassuolo	15	3	5	7	17	31	-14	14	L	D	W	D	W
18 Livorno	15	3	4	8	15	25	-10	13	D	L	L	L	W
19 Bologna	15	2	6	7	16	28	-12	12	L	D	D	L	D
20 Catania	15	2	3	10	10	28	-18	9	L	L	L	W	L

also secured with six clean sheets, a great response to criticism received earlier in the season.

Juventus were in Bologna on Friday evening, the home side hovering on the cusp of the relegation zone as Round 15 commenced. Andrea Pirlo went off injured during the Udinese victory – and will be out until the new year - so Paul Pogba took his place in midfield. Conte also made other changes with one eye on their must-not-lose European clash away at Galatasaray.

Claudio Marchisio was denied by Rossoblu shot-stopper Gianluca Curci in the 12th minute, but as the move continued the ball fell to Federico Peluso. The wing-back chipped a cross to the back post where Vidal controlled the pass and dinked his finish over the sprawling goalkeeper to give Juventus the lead.

It was his sixth Serie A goal this term. "I watch the ball and stay focused," Vidal explained of his ex-

cellent scoring record.

Bologna were looking to move away from the bottom three and had chances of their own. Alessandro Diamanti forced two good saves from Gianluigi Buffon, while Jonathan Cristaldo flashed a second half drive just wide of the post.

Substitute Fernando Llorente was guilty of spurning two good opportunities, but the visitors made the points safe in the final minute as Giorgio Chiellini headed in a Tevez corner at the near post. It temporarily extended their lead at the top to six points. Buffon has now gone in excess of 600 minutes without conceding.

"Juventus did not change the tune despite different performers and that is the best thing about this victory," said Conte afterwards. "I said before the game I wasn't worried, as I train everyone the same way because they all have to be ready when called upon."

One player who has proven he is

ready for whatever is thrown at him is Vidal.

Meanwhile, Roma were seeking to reduce the gap as they hosted Fiorentina. A free-flowing contest saw Maicon and Manuel Pasqual score in the first half. Roma introduced Mattia Destro for his first appearance of the season and within minutes he struck the winner. The relief of being back on the pitch and scoring etched in Destro's face as he roared in celebration.

It also pushed the Giallorossi clear of Napoli, who could only manage a 3-3 draw at home with Udinese. Goran Pandev scored twice, but they were pegged back late on by Dusan Basta. In a repeat scoreline, Inter were held by Parma on Sunday evening.

Spanish La Liga



Pepe Lopez

2 Madrid Clubs Seeded For UEFA Champions League Rd of 16

Both Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid, arch rivals and currently sitting 2nd and 3rd in the Spanish La Liga, will be amongst Europe's top 8 seeds when UEFA conducts the UEFA Champions League Round of 16 in Switzerland on the 16th of December. Pending no major upset in the final day of UEFA group stage in Barcelona when Celtic, the Madrid pair will be joined by fellow Spanish representatives FC Barcelona in the UEFA Champions League seeded pot. Real Madrid completed the UEFA Group Stage in Denmark, undefeated in 6 games, and capped off a fine group stage performance with a 2-0 away win against FC Kobenhavn.



Ronaldo tops the goalscoring charts upon return from injury

Goal scorer, Cristiano Ronaldo, had this to say after the match, as quoted on www.uefa.com; "It was very important for us to remain unbeaten in the group. We played very well. We knew it would be a difficult game on a difficult playing surface, but we tried, and we played very well. It has been a good group stage for us. The group was pretty tough, with good teams. We realised our goal, to go through as group winners. Let's see what happens in the next round. I'm happy with the record. I have scored another goal and I have helped the team. I'm happy with that. It is just a record, though, and to be honest I don't worry too much about

that. I just think about winning games and winning titles. As I have been sidelined for a couple of weeks, I have to get back into the rhythm. I feel good, but I'm not at my best physically. I am really enjoying my football at the moment. My own play is more fluent, and I have to continue like this, but I know that the season is very long. I have not felt good in all matches, but today I played well, and I want to enjoy that. We are playing well as a team right now. We play some good football, attractive football, and have a lot of confidence."

Atletico Madrid also have the opportunity to complete the

UEFA Group Stage without defeat, if they can obtain a result at home against Portugal's FC Porto, on the final Group Stage match day. Whilst the match is a dead rubber for the home team, FC Porto have everything to play, as they currently in 3rd place in the group, and have a chance of advancing to the round of 16 of the Champions League if they defeat Atletico, and Zenit St. Petersburg fail to beat Austria Wien.

Speaking with press ahead of the match, Atletico Madrid Coach Diego Simeone had this to say;

"We have the same opportunities against all rivals we face

– whoever plays best will win. Porto are a strong team with great players like Jackson Martinez, someone who is growing year after year. The Champions League is a nice competition. It's a new experience, much more competitive than La Liga. Here, the winning teams have changed and it is not just the same two as in Spain. This competition is not boring."

Porto Coach Paulo Fonseca had this to say;

"Atletico are very strong, even more so than when we played them in October, but I'm certain we can win. We will see what happens with Zenit's match, we can't do anything about that, but

SPAIN La Liga												Last5games Most recent first	
	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts					
1 Barcelona	15	13	1	1	42	9	+33	40	L	W	W	W	W
2 Atlético Madrid	15	13	1	1	40	9	+31	40	W	D	W	D	W
3 Real Madrid	15	12	1	2	44	17	+27	37	W	W	W	W	W
4 Athletic Club	15	9	2	4	23	19	+4	29	W	W	W	L	D
5 Villarreal	15	8	4	3	25	14	+11	28	D	W	D	W	L
6 Real Sociedad	15	6	5	4	25	21	+4	23	W	W	L	W	D
7 Getafe	15	7	2	6	18	21	-3	23	W	L	D	L	W
8 Sevilla	15	6	4	5	29	27	+2	22	W	W	W	L	L
9 Valencia	15	6	2	7	21	23	-2	20	W	L	D	W	L
10 Espanyol	15	5	3	7	18	21	-3	18	L	W	L	L	D
11 Elche	15	4	5	6	15	20	-5	17	L	W	D	L	D
12 Granada	15	5	2	8	12	19	-7	17	L	L	W	W	L
13 Levante	15	4	5	6	13	21	-8	17	L	L	L	L	D
14 Celta de Vigo	15	4	3	8	20	23	-3	15	W	L	L	W	L
15 Málaga	15	3	5	7	17	22	-5	14	D	L	L	W	D
16 Osasuna	15	4	1	10	11	25	-14	13	L	W	L	L	W
17 Rayo Vallecano	15	4	1	10	15	36	-21	13	D	L	W	L	L
18 Real Valladolid	15	2	6	7	16	25	-9	12	L	D	L	D	D
19 Almería	15	3	3	9	16	32	-16	12	L	L	W	W	W
20 Real Betis	15	2	4	9	14	30	-16	10	D	L	L	L	D

Latest Results	Next Match
Villarreal 1 - 1 Málaga	Levante v Elche
Elche 0 - 2 Atlético Madrid	Osasuna v Real Madrid
Celta Vigo 3 - 1 Almería	Rayo Vallecano v Granada
Real Madrid 4 - 0 Real Valladolid	Barcelona v Villarreal
Espanyol 1 - 2 Real Sociedad	Málaga v Getafe
Real Betis 2 - 2 Rayo Vallecano	Almería v Espanyol
Granada 1 - 2 Sevilla	Real Sociedad v Real Betis
Valencia 3 - 0 Osasuna	Sevilla v Athletic Club
Athletic Club 1 - 0 Barcelona	Atlético Madrid v Valencia
	Real Valladolid v Celta Vigo

One To Watch This Weekend...

Champions Barcelona FC host Villareal in the Spanish La Liga, the match can be watched LIVE on Fox Sports 2 at 5.55am, Sunday December 15, AEST.

Real Madrid will travel to Pamplona to take on CA Osasuna in the Basque Country, delayed coverage can be viewed on Fox Sports 3 at 8.30am, Sunday December 15, AEST.

Atletico Madrid host Valencia, delayed coverage of the match can be viewed Fox Sports 1 at 12pm, Monday December 16, AEST.

Valladolid host Celta Vigo, the match can be watched LIVE on Fox Sports 1 at 7.55am, Tuesday December 17, AEST.

it is not worth thinking about their game if we can't win ours. A team like Porto has once choice only, and that is to win."

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CROATIA 1.HNL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Dinamo Zagreb	18	12	4	2	32	12	+20	40	WDWWW
2 Hajduk Split	19	10	7	2	33	16	+17	37	DDDW
3 Rijeka	18	9	7	2	33	16	+17	34	DWDLW
4 Lokomotiva	18	10	2	6	30	24	+6	32	WLWLL
5 Split	19	8	7	4	21	15	+6	31	DWDDW
6 Istra 1961	18	6	5	7	25	26	-1	23	DWLDD
7 Slaven Koprivnica	19	3	8	8	22	26	-4	17	DDOLD
8 Zadar	19	4	5	10	14	30	-16	17	DLDLW
9 Osijek	19	2	5	12	13	40	-27	11	LDDDD
10 Hrvatski Drago...	19	1	6	12	14	32	-18	9	LLDDL

GERMANY Bundesliga

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Bayern München	15	13	2	0	39	7	+32	41	WWWWW
2 Bayer Leverkusen	15	12	1	2	32	14	+18	37	WWWWL
3 Borussia Dortmund	15	10	1	4	35	16	+19	31	LWLLW
4 Borussia M'gla...	15	10	1	4	33	17	+16	31	WWWWW
5 Wolfsburg	15	8	2	5	23	16	+7	26	WDDWW
6 Schalke 04	15	7	3	5	30	28	+2	24	LWDWW
7 Hertha BSC	15	6	4	5	22	17	+5	22	WDLWL
8 Mainz 05	15	6	2	7	22	29	-7	20	DLWWL
9 Augsburg	15	6	2	7	16	23	-7	20	WDWLW
10 Stuttgart	15	5	4	6	28	28	+0	19	WLLWL
11Hoffenheim	15	4	5	6	34	35	-1	17	WLLLL
12 Hannover 96	15	5	2	8	19	26	-7	17	WLDDL
13 Hamburger SV	15	4	4	7	30	32	-2	16	LDWLL
14 Werder Bremen	15	4	4	7	19	34	-15	16	LDLLW
15 Eintracht Fran...	15	2	5	8	18	28	-10	11	LLDLL
16 Freiburg	15	2	5	8	14	28	-14	11	LLWLW
17 Nürnberg	15	0	9	6	14	30	-16	9	DLDLL
18 Eintracht Brau...	15	2	2	11	8	28	-20	8	LLLDW

THE CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Burnley	19	11	6	2	30	13	+17	39	WDLDD
2 Queens Park Ra...	19	11	6	2	22	10	+12	39	DWLWD
3 Leicester City	19	12	2	5	31	21	+10	38	LLWWL
4 Derby County	19	10	4	5	40	26	+14	34	WWWWW
5 Nottingham Forest	19	8	7	4	29	22	+7	31	WDLDW
6 Reading	19	8	7	4	28	22	+6	31	LW added
7 Blackpool	19	8	7	4	23	21	+2	31	LL added
8 Leeds United	19	9	3	7	29	23	+6	30	DWLWW
9 Ipswich Town	19	8	5	6	30	24	+6	29	WWLWL
10 Brighton & Hov...	19	7	7	5	24	18	+6	28	W added
11 Huddersfield Town	19	7	5	7	25	23	+2	26	LW added
12 Watford	19	6	7	6	30	27	+3	25	DD added
13 Blackburn Rovers	19	6	6	7	22	22	+0	24	LL added
14 Wigan Athletic	18	6	4	8	19	20	-1	22	L added
15 Bolton Wanderers	19	5	7	7	20	23	-3	22	W added
16 AFC Bournemouth	19	6	4	9	24	36	-12	22	W added
17 Millwall	19	5	6	8	23	37	-14	21	W added
18 Middlesbrough	19	4	8	7	30	30	+0	20	DL added
19 Birmingham City	19	5	5	9	24	26	-2	20	DD added
20 Doncaster Rovers	19	5	5	9	17	31	-14	20	LD added
21 Charlton Athletic	19	4	6	9	16	23	-7	18	DL added
22 Yeovil Town	19	4	4	11	16	26	-10	16	DW added
23 Sheffield Wedn...	18	2	8	8	20	29	-9	14	WL added
24 Barnsley	19	3	5	11	18	37	-19	14	WL added

Greece Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Olympiakos Piraeus	14	13	1	0	43	4	+39	40	WWWWW
2 PAOK	14	10	2	2	25	12	+13	32	DDWWLW
3 Atromitos	14	7	4	3	22	11	+11	25	WD added
4 Panathinaikos	14	7	3	4	21	13	+8	24	WD added
5 Xanthi	14	6	3	5	20	19	+1	21	WD added
6 Asteras Tripolis	14	5	6	3	21	16	+5	21	LW added
7 Panaitolikos	14	4	6	4	14	13	+1	18	DL added
8 Ergotelis	14	4	6	4	17	17	+0	18	DL added
9 Panthrakikos	14	4	6	4	17	21	-4	18	W added
10 Kalloni	14	6	0	8	15	24	-9	18	LL added
11 Levadiakos	14	5	2	7	17	25	-8	17	WL added
12 Panionios	14	4	5	5	14	17	-3	17	DL added
13 PAS Giannina	14	5	2	7	14	19	-5	17	LL added
14 OFI	14	3	6	5	12	18	-6	15	WL added
15 Platanias	14	2	6	6	12	19	-7	12	LD added
16 Veria	14	2	4	8	12	26	-14	10	WL added
17 Apollon Smirnis	14	2	4	8	12	22	-10	10	DL added
18 Aris	14	2	4	8	12	24	-12	10	DD added

SCOTLAND SPL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Celtic	14	11	3	0	35	12	+23	36	WW added
2 Inverness CT	14	9	2	3	21	11	+10	29	DW added
3 Dundee United	15	7	5	3	29	11	+18	26	WW added
4 Aberdeen	15	8	2	5	22	14	+8	26	W added
5 Motherwell	15	8	1	6	16	23	-7	25	LW added
6 St. Johnstone	15	6	3	6	22	17	+5	21	LL added
7 Hibernian	15	4	5	6	10	15	-5	17	DD added
8 St. Mirren	14	4	4	6	14	21	-7	16	DD added
9 Partick Thistle	15	3	5	7	13	25	-12	14	DL added
10 Kilmarnock	15	3	3	9	16	24	-8	12	WL added
11 Ross County	14	3	2	9	16	29	-13	11	DL added
12 Heart of Midlo...	15	3	3	9	13	25	-12	-3	LD added

HOLLAND Eredivisie

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Vitesse	16	10	3	3	37	20	+17	33	WW added
2 Ajax	16	9	4	3	37	15	+22	31	WW added
3 Twente	16	8	6	2	37	16	+21	30	WW added
4 Feyenoord	16	8	3	5	32	24	+8	27	WL added
5 Groningen	16	6	6	4	31	29	+2	24	LD added
6 AZ	16	7	3	6	28	26	+2	24	LD added
7 Utrecht	16	7	3	6	24	27	-3	24	WW added
8 Heerenveen	16	5	5	5	35	30	+5	23	LD added
9 PEC Zwolle	16	5	7	4	24	19	+5	22	LD added
10 PSV	16	5	5	6	28	24	+4	20	LD added
11 Go Ahead Eagles	16	5	5	6	26	37	-11	20	W added
12 NAC Breda	16	5	4	7	26	29	-3	19	LD added
13 Heracles	16	5	3	8	21	29	-8	18	W added
14 Roda JC	16	4	6	6	26	35	-9	18	LD added
15 ADO Den Haag	16	5	2	9	20	36	-16	17	W added
16 Cambuur	16	4	4	8	15	23	-8	16	DL added
17 RKC Waalwijk	16	3	5	8	22	32	-10	14	DD added
18 NEC	16	2	6	8	23	41	-18	12	WL added

LEAGUE ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 Leyton Orient	19	13	4	2	42	17	+25	43	DD added
2 Wolverhampton ...	19	13	4	2	32	11	+21	43	LD added
3 Preston North End	19	10	7	2	28	17	+11	37	W added
4 Brentford	19	11	4	4	29	19	+10	37	W added
5 Peterborough U...	19	11	2	6	28	18	+10	35	W added
6 Rotherham United	19	8	7	4	31	23	+8	31	W added
7 Swindon Town	19	9	3	7	35	25	+10	30	W added
8 Bradford City	19	7	8	4	32	21	+11	29	DD added
9 Port Vale	19	9	2	8	28	28	+0	29	WL added
10 Walsall	19	7	6	6	20	18	+2	27	LD added
11 Coventry City	19	10	4	5	41	34	+7	24	W added
12 Milton Keynes Dons	18	6	4	8	28	29	-1	22	LL added
13 Shrewsbury Town	19	5	7	7	23	22	-1	22	W added
14 Oldham Athletic	18	6	4	8	23	25	-2	22	W added
15 Crawley Town	19	5	7	7	19	24	-5	22	LD added
16 Colchester United	19	4	9	6	21	26	-5	21	LD added
17 Gillingham	20	6	3	11	25	35	-10	21	LL added
18 Carlisle United	19	5	6	8	19	32	-13	21	LW added
19 Tranmere Rovers	19	5	5	9	23	34	-11	20	W added
20 Sheffield United	19	4	5	10	17	27	-10	17	DD added
21 Stevenage	19	5	2	12	19	32	-13	17	LL added
22 Crewe Alexandra	19	4	4	11	15	40	-25	16	W added
23 Bristol City	19	2	9	8	26	32	-6	15	LD added
24 Notts County	20	4	2	14	21	34	-13	14	W added

France Ligue 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	Last5games Most recent first
1 PSG	17	12	4	1	39	10	+29	40	WL added
2 Monaco	17	11	5	1	28	11	+17	38	WW added
3 Lille	17	11	3	3	18	5	+13	36	WL added
4 Nantes	17	9	2	6	22	13	+9	29	W added
5 Olympique Mars...	17	8	3	6	23	16	+7	27	LL added
6 Bordeaux	17	7	6	4	23	18	+5	27	WW added
7 Reims	17	6	7	4	18	19	-1	25	W added
8 Saint-Étienne	16	7	3	6	24	20	+4	24	WL added
9 Guingamp	17	6	5	6	19	17	+2	23	LD added
10 Olympique Lyonnai	17	6	5	6	24	23	+1	23	W added
11 Lorient	17	7	2	8	22	23	-1	23	WW added
12 Bastia	17	6	5	6	20	24	-4	23	LD added
13 Rennes	17	5	6	6	20	19	+1	21	WL added
14 Toulouse	17	5	6	6	18	23	-5	21	DD added
15 Evian TG	16	5	4	7	17	27	-10	19	W added
16 Nice	17	5	2	10	14	24	-10	17	LL added
17 Montpellier	17	2	10	5	18	23	-5	16	LD added
18 Valenciennes	17	2	5	10	14	25	-11	11	DL added
19 Ajaccio	17	1	6	10	11	28	-17	9	LD added
20 Sochaux	17	1	5	11	13	37	-24	8	LL added

European Results

THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Brighton & Hov... 3 - 1 Leicester City
Birmingham City 2 - 2 Middlesbrough
Bolton Wanderers 3 - 0 Doncaster Rovers
Leeds United 3 - 3 Watford
Reading 1 - 2 AFC Bournemouth
Ipswich Town 2 - 1 Huddersfield Town
Yeovil Town 2 - 2 Charlton Athletic
Burnley 1 - 0 Barnsley
Sheffield Wedn... 0 - 1 Nottingham Forest
Leeds United 3 - 3 Watford
Reading 1 - 2 AFC Bournemouth
Ipswich Town 2 - 1 Huddersfield Town
Yeovil Town 2 - 2 Charlton Athletic
Burnley 1 -

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